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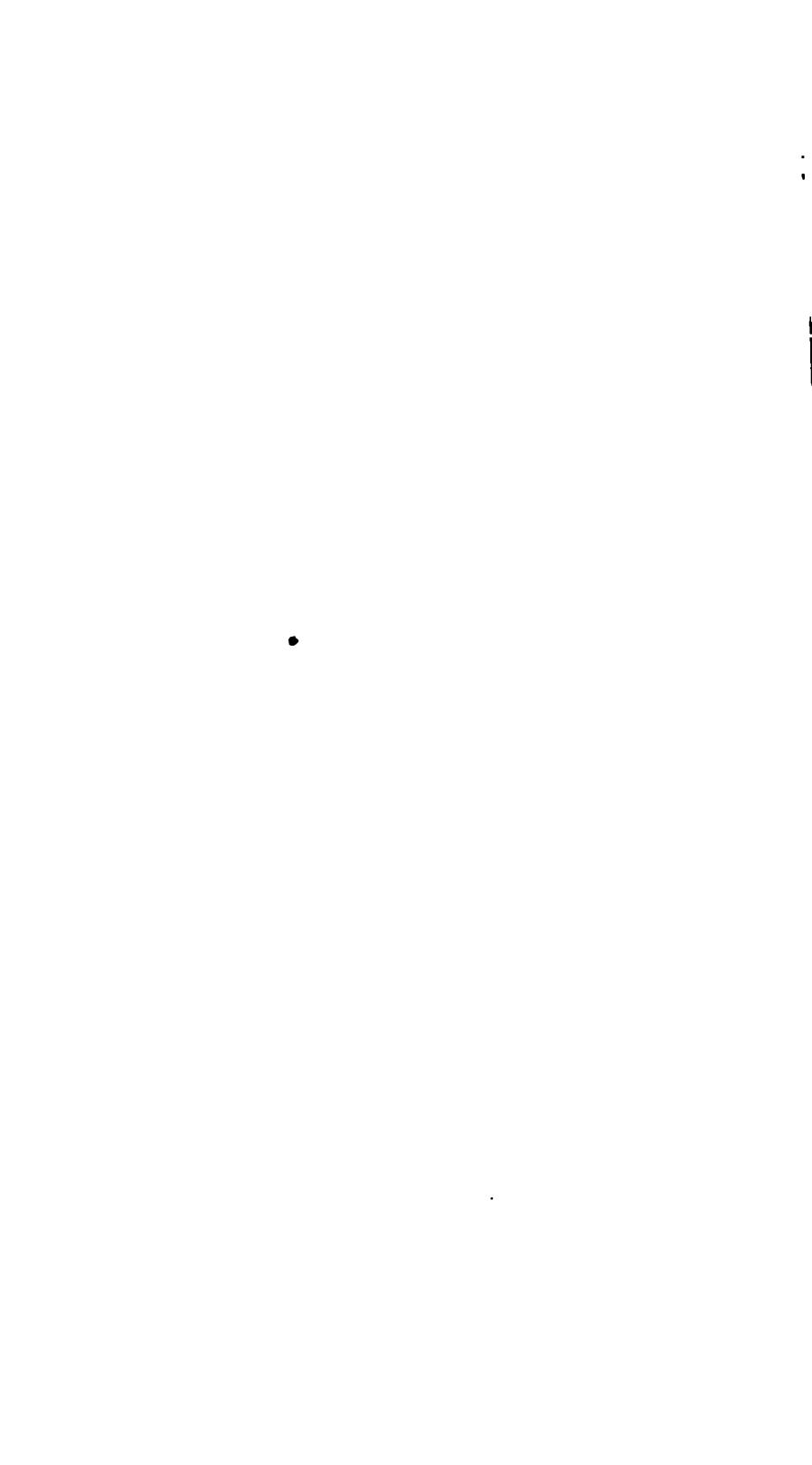
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ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING,

BOSTON,

MAY 22, 1853, BEING THE XLIV. ANNIVERSARY.

Published by Order of the Trustees.

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REPORT.

THE Report of the last year began with kindly and respectful mention of officers and friends of the Society deceased since the previous Anniversary. Another twelvemonth has elapsed, and the hand that penned that Report is cold, the voice that read it is mute, the mind and heart that indited it, are transferred to other and higher scenes. Rev. Francis PARKMAN, D. D., through a period of five-and-thirty years, occupied posts of honor and usefulness in this Association. From 1818 to 1849 he was its Corresponding Secretary. From 1849 to the date of his decease, he was its Vice President. In 1832 he became a member of its Executive Committee, and soon after its Chairman. Those of us who have been associated with him in these duties can bear witness to his zeal, his promptness, his punctuality, the keen zest which he brought to their discharge, and his uniform courtesy and urbanity. Those who have attended these anniversary occasions, must have listened with interest to the Reports of your Committee, ordinarily written and read by him,

and marked by a variety of matter, and an easy gracefulness of style, peculiar to himself. They must have noticed also his unremitted attention to these exercises, his nod of assent, his smile of approbation, his whole look and air in intimate keeping and sympathy with the scene. He has gone. Let us prepare to follow.

From the Report of the Agent of the Depository, it appears that there have been issued for the year ending April 30th, ten thousand six hundred Bibles, and twenty-nine thousand eight hundred and fifty-four Testaments; making a total of forty thousand and fifty-four. Of these, thirty-eight thousand nine hundred and sixty-nine were in the English, and fourteen hundred and eighty-five in various foreign languages.

The gratuitous issues included in the above are three thousand two hundred and seventeen Bibles, and three thousand and twenty-three Testaments, making a total of six thousand two hundred and forty Bibles and Testaments.

Of these, five thousand six hundred and thirty-five were in the English, and six hundred and five in foreign languages. And there have been distributed among seamen, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven; to city missions, six hundred and seventy-four; to public institutions and public houses, nine hundred and ninety-seven; to Sabbath and other schools, nine hundred and forty-two; to Germans in Boston, one hundred and seven; to destitute families and individuals in Massachusetts,

one thousand two hundred and fifty-two; and the remaining four hundred and seventy-one abroad.

The Treasurer states in his Report that the total receipts for the past year have amounted to \$19,771 06, of which \$9,807 85 have been from sales, \$8,202 16 from donations and annual subscriptions, and \$630 from legacies; and that a balance remains in the treasury, over all expenses, of \$1,753 57.

The Recording Secretary and General Agent of the Society, Rev. D. Butler, has presented its claims to the churches of the Commonwealth on fifty-one Sabbaths of the year, visiting and preaching in every county but Nantucket and Dukes. He states that a growing interest in this charity is shown in the increasing number of churches that regularly aid it, and in the enlarging contributions received from the whole State. Many churches that a few years since gave irregularly, or not at all, now annually present to it their offerings. It is upon friends such as these, that the cause must rely.

A fact worthy of mention, as indicative of the widening field and increasing activity of the National Society, is the erection and occupation of its large and commodious Bible House, notwithstanding the great expenditure for which, the ordinary receipts of the Society have amounted to nearly forty thousand dollars more than during any previous year since its organization. Equally indicative of growing zeal and efficiency abroad, has been the recent Jubilee of the British and Foreign Bible Society,—the grand pioneer in this work of printing and distributing

God's word. The public services of Tuesday of that week were held in Exeter Hall, London. The chair was occupied by Lord Shaftesbury; on his right sat the Rajah of Coory, in oriental costume, and the Duke of Argyle; on the left, the Earl of Carlyle and the Bishop of Winchester. It appeared that within the fifty years of the Society's existence it had procured the translation of the Scriptures into 148 languages and dialects, 121 of which had never before been printed, and upwards of 25 of which had existed hitherto without an alphabet; and had distributed upwards of 43 millions of copies among, as was computed, 600 millions of our race.

The generous response to these statements was a subscription of upwards of £7,000. A Jubilee Sermon was preached on Thursday in St. Paul's by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Thus the providences of the past year, joyous and grievous, stimulate us to new exertions. Your Committee feel that our Society, and all of us, as individuals, have great and increasing responsibilities. To furnish Massachusetts with the Bible is not enough, nor to furnish New England. Our country demands our aid, and "the field is the world." No man should live or die, at home or abroad, ignorant of his duty, unadmonished of his destiny, whom we can reach and supply with these "oracles of God."

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Forty-Fourth Anniversary of the Massachusetts Bible Society was held in the Central Church, Winter Street, on Monday, May 23. The Report of the Treasurer was presented and accepted, and Officers for the ensuing year elected. The Members of the Society them proceeded to the Church, where the public services of the Anniversary were held. Select passages of Scripture were read and prayer offered by the Rev. Patrick H. Greenleaf, of Boston. The President, Hon. Simon Greenleaf, then addressed the assembly as follows:

Through the favor of Divine Providence, the Bible Society of Massachusetts is permitted to celebrate its Forty-Fourth Anniversary. It has closed a year of unexampled prosperity in its work of distributing the Holy Scriptures, and now enters upon a new year with unabated interest in the good cause in which we are engaged, and with an undiminished obligation to carry it forward with all the energies at our command.

Among the results of Bible distribution during the past year, we may notice the opposition it has encountered. The enemy of light and truth, perceiving that his strongholds were invaded, has rekindled in Europe the slumbering fires of persecution against the disciples of Jesus who circulate, or even privately read the words of his gospel. It is thus evident, that the friends of Scripture truth have not been idle in the old world, since they have awakened the fears and drawn down the renewed anathemas of the Man of Sin.

In our own country, also, efforts are unremittingly made to banish the Bible from the common schools. Should they ultimately succeed, it is obvious that our children may grow up in comparative ignorance of those great principles of Christianity on which our free institutions rest, and which alone will save us from that despotism, in Church and State, which now reigns over so large a portion of Europe. Against the insidious approaches of such an evil, we cannot be too widely awake. If it is true, that eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, this is emphatically true in regard to liberty of conscience, liberty of access to the Holy Scriptures, and freedom to worship God.

Our active labors in the distribution of this Sacred Volume should increase with the growing necessities of our rapidly increasing population. We must supply it in all the languages spoken in the country. We must have distributing agents on all the thoroughfares where emigrants travel. We must send it singly into all the abodes of ignorance and vice in our cities, and into the cabins of the forest and the prairie. All the children of our land must be made familiar with its teaching, that they may securely walk by its light while living, and repose on its blessed hopes and promises when they come to die.

How far this Society has performed its part in this great work during the past year, will be seen from the Report which is now to be read. And if, as we are conscious is the truth, it has come short of what the greatness of the work demands, and we are bound to higher achievements in the coming year, it rests with you, Christian friends, both to encourage us in the effort, and to enable us to accomplish it.

The Annual Report was read by the Rev. George Richards.

Rev. James M. Hoppin, of Salem, moved the acceptance of the Report, and then offered the following resolution and remarks:

Resolved, That while aiding in the distribution of the Sacred Scriptures, we should also strive to lead men, and especially all in our own land, to a renewed and true study of the Bible.

The resolution has reference to that study of the divine Word which insures the good results of its distribution. The expression, "renewed study of the Bible," has been employed in the. resolution, because, with the incredibly larger distribution of the Bible, especially throughout our own land, there might be reason sometimes to fear that the Bible itself is not so truly studied as of old, and thus the rich benefits which the Bible brings to the individuals and the nation may be diminished, in the midst of its greater freeness and abundance. Surely, a hundred unstudied Bibles are of less value than one truly studied, even if that one be chained to the stone pillar of a convent. We believe that our Fathers truly studied the Bible. The Puritan, both of England and of this country, bound the Bible as the old Hebrew did the law, upon his forehead, his arm, his heart; he made it the great educator of his children; he drew from it his own grave wisdom, mental firmness, and spiritual grandeur; it was to him "the wisdom of God," and therefore it was his "meditation all the day;" he rested his plough to explore it; he pondered it at the camp-fire on the eve of battle; he was not ashamed of [it in the hall of legislation, and on the highest seat of magistracy. It may be, possibly, for so it has been said, that his study of the Bible was somewhat warped, and that the parallelism of the tremendous exodus of ancient Israel through the sea and wilderness, with his own terrible religious tribulations, powerfully affected him, and drew him disproportionately to the study of the Old Testament; so that he did not, enough for his own refreshing, bathe his weary and fighting spirit in the limpid waters of the gospel. It may be also said, that he expressed his study of the Bible in many unpolished ways, and in a Canaanitish dialect; but these things only proved how deep the Bible was in his soul, that it was the source of his strength as of his peculiarities, that it was the profound ocean of his mental and spiritual contemplations, on which these straws swam. And this study of the Bible, in our own country, was when Bibles were very few in the land. For one hundred and sixty years, during the reigns of eight English sovereigns, every Bible that was read in America came across the sea; and Jonathan Edwards drew his History of Redemption from an imported Bible; nor was it until the close of the eighteenth century, that freedom to print Bibles in America was

obtained; and thus "the Word of God" was "bound" to our Fathers, even until after our own civil bonds were burst. And in England, though we could hardly now imagine it, in an enlightened epoch of her history, which was then also our own, but just before Shakspeare's genius rose and shone so benignly, Englishmen perished in the flames, for avowing that every one, laity as well as clergy,—that "every plough-boy in England" ought to have the Bible; and if so painful a history would allow it, we could smile at the application made of Scripture itself by the persecutors of these devoted men, viz: that through their giving of the Bible thus indiscriminately to all classes of men, "the gospel pearl was cast abroad, to be trodden under foot by swine." It is difficult to believe that so learned, moderate, and in other respects singularly high-minded a man as Sir Thomas More, could, from his Chancellor's throne, with the wielded, imperious, crushing power of Henry VIII., have sent forth proclamations of fire and sword against the works and persons of those who, like Tyndale and Frith, were laboriously making a true translation of the Bible into good Saxon English, for the common people to read.

Thus perhaps our Fathers loved the Bible more, and would have drawn their swords to have preserved it in all the institutions of the land, because it had come out to them from under the furnace of the writ "de heretico comburendo," and had been delivered into their hands wrapped as it were in napkins stained with martyrs' blood. It had to them an interest profoundly human, as well as mysteriously divine. This study of the Bible,—which after all is the true honor to be paid to it, with the best energies, an awed personal conscience, and the interpenetrating of the whole being and life, is not perhaps so strongly characteristic of the present as of a former day, although Bibles are now as abundant as "autumnal leaves," and every child can have one for a child's daily earnings. never truly was there so much of Biblical science, so many commentators, so many critical students of the Bible, so many tasked brains bending over the sacred page, as now. This emboldens a remark in respect to the true study of the Bible,—that as every age has its error as well as its virtue in its study of the Word of God, as the first age was too philosophical, as the middle age was

too speculative,—the error of the present in the study of the Bible may be, that it is not too greatly, but too exclusively critical.

This does not at all disparage Biblical criticism and science. As belief itself is primarily a matter of the intellect, even as faith is of the heart, and as the truth purely comprehended can alone make our souls free, so Biblical science is the first of sciences, and has proved its claim to this regard by having left, as the result of its vast labors, the authority of Divine Revelation, humanly speaking, more deeply settled,—the mountains standing firmer around Jerusalem. And Biblical science has rightfully subsidized every other science, for it is itself as comprehensive as the manifestations of God. The science of Philology in especial, awakened to preternatural activity within the last half century, has wonderfully unlocked the Bible. The more skillful study of that noble old language which, amid thunderings and lightnings, the finger of God traced on the tables of stone, the language deemed worthy to sustain the mighty burden of the Law, with its unsoftened granitic strength, carrying us back to the pyramids, the elder hills and plains, the shepherds, the grandeur and emotiveness of a primitive world and nature,—this has brought us nearer the visible majesty of God in revelation. And all that keen apprehension which has penetrated more profoundly into the characteristics of the Oriental mind, through which the inspiration of God was poured, with its strongly original but rarely fully devoloped powers, its mixture of the meditative and the emotional, its capability of the sternest sacrifice and the most ecstatic feeling,all that indeed, has opened to us Oriental nature so diverse from our own, the Syrian sky with its magnificent unclouded firmament, the sublime oceanic desert, the tusted palm, those changeless manners, which are themselves the truest archeology, the sacred sites whose simple rocks and slopes are sometimes the best commentaries, and all those subtle influences of nature or mind which originally impressed themselves, not essentially but formatively, upon Divine truth,—and in this connection that invincible genius of research which has spelled out upon the great stone pages of Karnak, and the rising slabs of Nineveh, corresponding chapters to Holy Writ,—all this has sensibly animated our scriptural confidence. And in the physical sciences, when the great simple truth pronounced by Galileo, that Scripture and physical fact could never be opposed, is being every day elucidated and confirmed by a deeper science, the very rocky ribs of the planet being notched with the first verses of the Bible, and with the chafings of that Spirit-brooded ocean,—and when, for example, a world-grasping Humboldt, making his careful observations from the steppes of Siberia to the valleys of the Andes, arrives, by scientific deduction wholly, at the scriptural statement of the absolute derivation of the human race from one pair, then we see the value of every human science in the study of the Bible.

The patient learning, too, which has sifted down nearly all the discrepancies that must necessarily exist in a record descended through human transcription and translation, which has brought all these discrepancies into a defined space, so that we can hold them in our hand, and which has arrived at the most interesting conclusions, that these discrepancies are fewer than in contemporaneous classical writings, as in Homer, or Cicero, that the "lacunæ," or the breaks in the sense are almost none, and that no "essential truth originally inspired from heaven, has at all suffered from the storms and wear of earth,"—the learning, for instance, which led a Brettschneider, whose herculean strength went boldly to resettling or overturning the gospel of John, to admit that from the conflicts and results of the investigation, the foundations of that all-important portion of Scripture were proved to be deeper bedded in evidence than those perhaps of any other part, -such learning, while it may have made trembling in many honest hearts, has nevertheless, in its fruits at least, given us cause for rejoicing. The silent, systematic thought also, which has brought out the unity of the theology from the apparent variety of the forms of Scripture, and shown the relations of every truth to the whole truth, this has done infinitely good service. lastly, the philosophy, which has ever manfully met a philosophy of pretension, and has led minds wisely true to the future interests of the inspired Word, through sore self-travail, to develop the essential harmonies of philosophy and faith, and which in that Thought-land of Central Europe itself, we cannot but hope, is preparing in its slow white heat of mingled thought and suffering, some of the most polished pillars of the glorious temple of the triumph of the everlasting gospel, then we see the healthful progress of the age in Biblical science; and herein theology itself is

a grandly progressive science, the written Word resembling that other word, Nature, which though itself unchangeable, and in its great features known to every child, is yet ever unfolding, and having inconceivably more to unfold, to the true student,

But Biblical science alone, the habit of approaching the Bible purely for critical study—this, we humbly believe, to be the injurious thing. The sad phenomenon which our age has sometimes presented, of men spending long lives and unbounded energies upon a venerable book in the dead languages, which garners up into itself the antique world, while they smiled at its authority to bind their consciences, rule their faith, and judge them at last—here we conceive is the deep evil. That sharpened spirit, which, as some one has said, is "continually coursing up and down the Bible," and never arrives at a restful faith, that study of the Bible with a predetermined theory, which draws out the Divine Spirit from it, as a chemical process will search and expel the subtlest gas from a liquid substance,—that chilly criticism, which is as the night-frost to the tender and spiritual vitality of the Word of Life, so that until lately, in the very land of criticism and learning, when a man rose up there, with the warm life of Christ in his heart, like Augustus Neander, he seemed, perhaps to our too simple sense, to stand amid those philosophers, like that lone antarctic volcano which burns amid regions of snow,—such a study of the Bible, we would respectfully and earnestly submit, to the individual soul at least, appears to be worse than its neglect; for when we reflect that even in so corrupt a translation as the old Latin Vulgate, all the great truths of life and salvation are preserved; then we may know that this consuming of strength upon "the letter" that "killeth," will not produce a religious reformation in an individual or a nation, and did not produce the reformations of Luther, Zuingle, and Wickliffe.

The Bible, should it not be approached with more simplicity than any other book that exists, with more care of the mental condition, and above all, with a mind that already by faith and love, spiritually knows the Author, and which can alone make the dead letter leap into life and power? And should not the Bible also be studied as a whole, with a reverent regard to the unity of the spirit, the essential oneness of divine truth? In such

study, no part would be overlooked; the Old Testament would not be neglected as an effete inspiration, as a dry husk out of which the New had flowered, and thus had cast it off, but rather be meditated as the bud of the gospel, as the master-key of the New Testament. The Bible is like one of those grand old cathedrals of Europe, where long ages were consumed in its building, where every builder built by himself, and according to his own inspiration, and where the greatest diversity of style was allowed; and yet when it was all finished, there was produced an overwhelming unity. Moses laid the deep foundations of the law; the Prophets let in the gorgeous windows, through which the light of the rising of the world's light streamed; Paul and other Apostles reared the lofty towers of faith; James ornamented the mighty edifice within and without, with the beautiful adornings and carvings of good works; no builder was unnecessary, no portion is unessential; and when the spiritual man walks the great aisles thereof, he perceives with awe, the one guiding Spirit of the Lord God Almighty in every part, and the love of God in Christ, illumining the whole.

With this simple, spiritual study of the Bible, as the breathing of the love and will of God in Jesus Christ, as the great guidebook of our salvation, and with something of the renewed zeal of the old Puritan, mingled with a deeper skill, and perhaps a more unfettered love than his, how would such a study of the Word of Life revive our land. Without Bibliolatry, without any Alcoranic idea of resident divinity in the Book, and yet with faith in its divine infallibility and sufficiency, as if, in the words of Milton, "the Holy Spirit needed no supplement," such a study of the Bible accompanying its extension, would produce in this land, with the divine blessing, a new moral and religious reformation, -yes, may I not say, in this land of the reformed religion itself. By this renewed study of the Gospel of Christ, the very vices, moral and spiritual, which have been aggravated by the first reaction of Christianity upon the resisting heart of the nation, would, by its second fresh and vigorous application, be overcome. By this clearer study of divine truth, all fanaticism, and there are penderous clouds hanging over portions of this country, would be the most effectually dispelled; and a rational, sublime, heavenly Christianity would win its calm way through the whole land. By

this deeper study of the precepts of Christ, the great practical element of the gospel would be more largely drawn out, and the wealth which God has given so easily to this opulent nation, which he has piled into mountains and poured into rivers, would run as sparklingly and naturally into the wide channels of enlightened benevolence; and the benevolence of this land, once moved by a genuine love of Christ, would reflect something of the grandeur and expansiveness of our very dominion, even as Judea gave feelingly, and Greece beautifully to Christ, but Rome imperially.

Society, Government itself would gradually begin to feel this lifting tide of a pervading, popular re-evangelization; and in great lines of State policy the spirit and precepts of Jesus would as broadly shine, as if the only law book used in every State capitol were the Bible, and thus a truly Christian civilization would come at last, and America truly Christianized,—then the world. Then also that great hope, never to be wholly quenched out of the best minds, of the Unity of the Christian Church, would become more nearly realized in this sacred Delos of a Bible Faith, in which now for one shining moment we all are gathered, wherein the arms of warring tribes and sects would be laid aside and the embrace of a common brotherhood be given. Then also, perhaps, we would be permitted to see, in secondary things, a somewhat ampler and freer form of the Christian, the man to whom are "all things" in Christ, who would not fear to take possession of his rich heritage of nature, and to draw enlargement and joy from the contemplation of her lovely and magnificent forms; and who, like the late lamented Edwards, that harbinger soul, could look with admiration upon a noble statue or painting, and read Homer or Wordsworth, even with a sanctified mind. Then we should see a Christianity that dwarfed and repressed no healthful, manful, God-created energy of the being, and which would have vigor enough to control and lead, instead of shrinking wounded from the intellectual demands of an active, thoughtful, scientific age. And united with this intelligent, humane and hopeful Christianity, we should behold a sublimer spirituality, a holiness born from above and "full of the Holy Ghost," in which men would reverently recognize those "kings unto God," whose crown is continual communion with Him.

So I have seen in marvelous Switzerland, upon a still and glorious summer morning, above the heavy and clinging clouds of earth, above the steely glacier, above the common soar of the strong eagle, as if above the earth or a mortal thought, hanging in the deep sea-like vault of heaven, etherial and serene, the mountain's dome of dazzling white, so white that an angel wafted from heaven might alight upon it and not stain his robe, the purer airs of heaven circle around it, and it is touched by all the . exquisite fires of golden light,—silent is it, as if its front had clomb to God and there was awed, except when at times, with a deepening roar, louder and louder, like the brazen wheels of Michael's chariot or the beginning of the judgment trump, the avalanche thundered; and yet as if Awe loved to glide down from this bald and dreadful height, and to meet the loveliness of lower things, at the base of the great mountain the little vine-clad cottages of manly health and vigor nestled, the sunny rivers ran, along whose banks the flocks were feeding, and the humble meadows laughed, watered by those summits which held communion with the sky.

Rev. Patrick H. Greenleaf, of St. Mark's Church, in Boston, offered a resolution to the effect, that on the nations speaking the English language devolved the great work of giving the Bible to the world. He would not touch upon the subject of manifest destiny; that was for other places and times. To England, we owed the translation of the Bible into the tongue in which we were seeking to disseminate its real blessings. No man, who had really felt in his heart what the Bible was, would neglect to come forward to aid in its dissemination. And in this work the concentration of men of all shades of opinion was a mighty sign of coming victory.

The earlier translations of the Bible in England were made under great disadvantages, under proscription, persecution; and the last of these, King James's, was now the authorized version. One hundred and forty-eight languages have received the Scriptures from men speaking the English tongue, and all under difficulties. Can poor France disseminate the Scriptures, priest-ridden Italy, or other nations? Does it not seem to devolve on us, free in thought, energetic, untrammeled? As on the Eng-

lish flag the sun never goes down, so the Yankee spirit he always finds wherever he rises.

The above is but a brief outline of the eloquent address of Mr. Greenleaf. He was followed by Rev. Joseph Cumungs, of the Bromfield Street Church, in Boston, who spoke as follows:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—In rising to address this assembly, I may be permitted to offer the following Resolution:—

Resolved, That a due appreciation of the truths of the Sacred Scriptures, would lead to more earnest efforts to secure a universal diffusion of the Bible.

It is, Sir, a familiar fact, that many fundamental truths may be generally admitted, whose importance is not realized. They receive the assent of the understanding, but are not believed with the heart. When action results not from faith, the multiplication of proofs of essential principles, oft leads to dissatisfaction and doubt. The plain, strong reasons in their support being received with apparent indifference and listlessness, the earnest advocate, in his desire to secure his object, resorts to those necessarily less forcible, and oft as arguments questionable, and the doubts which these reasons suggest, are naturally connected with the whole subject.

In an assembly like this, no truths receive a more general and hearty assemt, than those relating to the glory, the excellency, and the divine power manifest in the Scriptures. With most, this regard for the Bible has not resulted from direct study and learned argument; it is connected with their earliest associations. They learned to reverence it ere they understood its truths.

But while the Word of Life is thus prized, the greatness of the obligations growing out of the relations it reveals, as existing between us and all our race, are little realized. The argument that would connect practical, active duty with professed belief, has the sanction of high authority.

There was a scene of thrilling interest nearly eighteen centuries ago, in the judgment hall at Cæsarea. Agrippa, Festus, Bernice, the chief captains and the principal men of the city were assembled with great pomp and ceremony of state, and before them a friendless, chained prisoner was brought. Permitted to speak for himself, he reasons with a power that sways the intellect, and moves the heart. Turning at length to Agrippa, having knowledge of his faith, he makes a personal appeal,— "King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest." Moved, and for a time overwhelmed, Agrippa, as we think, sincerely replies, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." Then, holding up his manacled hands, Paul exclaims, "I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost and altogether such as I am, except these bonds." Whatever may be the king's character, the argument of the Apostle is plain—if thou believest the prophets, then must thou receive as truth the religion I teach. Thus this Society may address each one who may pause to consider its claims, Believest thou the Bible? We know thou be-Then from your belief in this book, and in proportion to your appreciation of its excellence and power, must you be constrained to aid our cause. We seek to send this tried Word, not marred by man's comments, pure as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times, to all to whom it was given as a common legacy, by its Author. This and kindred societies, ask attention to nothing, that may be regarded as a mere experiment. Their plans and principles, long since settled, are admitted to be in accordance with the Book they would universally circulate. .

Human eloquence has exhausted its resources, in praise of the Scriptures, yet nothing has been said that surpasses our belief;—an angel's tongue could not adequately exhibit the theme. The noblest sons of genius have paid to it their tribute. While "piety has found friends in the friends of science, and true prayer has flowed from lips wet with Castalian dews," those most sagacious in the works of God have been in his Word sagacious, and rendered homage unfeigned. All agree with Sir William Jones, who was familiar with the greater part of the best works in twenty-eight languages, that "this volume, independent of its divine origin, contains more sublimity, purer morality, more im-

portant history, and finer strains of eloquence, than can be collected from all other books, in whatever language they may have been written." In the closing hours of Sir Walter Scott, the Wizard of the North, he said, "Lockhart, read to me." "What shall I read?" Turning his dying eyes on him, he said, "Lockhart, there is but one Book." But while the Bible presents beauties and difficulties and secrets and wonders, which superhuman powers cannot comprehend, and which the longest lifetime of the most exalted genius cannot exhaust,--" heights which no soarings of imagination can scale, and depths which no fathoming-line of intellect can explore," yet it is emphatically the poor man's book. He may know little of grammatical, historical, or logical arguments, of the witness of antiquity, or the completion of prophecy,—he may comprehend little of that array of evidence and accumulated argument, which it has been asserted, amounts to a more overwhelming demonstration, to a candid mind, that the Bible is a revelation of the will of God, than would be secured to an inquirer who should receive the same sacred truths from the celestial lips of a messenger from heaven, being assured of the reality of the interview by the stamp of a fiery cross left on his forehead; yet if in his poverty the poor man has received the riches of faith, he has a stronger witness in himself,—the testimony of his own heart,—and he has reared a structure of confidence which infidelity, with its hundred hands, cannot tear down. He feels that the Bible was written for him; it sheds light in his dreary hut, and renders cheerful his comfortless chamber of sickness. In his loneliness, want and sorrow, he rejoices to know that He who beholds the parched lily withering in the summer's heat, and hears the chirpings of the lone sparrow on the wintry hedges, numbers the very hairs of his head, and deems him of more value than many sparrows.

It is with awe that we think of the Bible as coming to us from the far distant ages of the past, the oldest offspring of human intellect divinely guided. All the contemporaries of its infancy have long since perished, and are forgotten. During thousands of years, it has been assaulted with ridicule and deadly hate, by misguided reason and perverted argument; yet it has withstood not only the tooth of time, but all the physical and intellectual strength of man.

To the Bible we owe all the blessings that distinguish us as a people, and all that renders life desirable to us as individuals. The Bible is the only guide that informs us how to move triumphantly through this scene of conflict, joyously through this vale of sorrow to the scenes of unbounded splendor which it alone reveals, where eternity will be our lifetime and infinity our home. Were the Bible removed, the millions of earth would be as mariners tossed on a tempestuous ocean, beneath darkened skies, without the polestar and without a compass. Then would the stormy cloud hang in eternal blackness over a suffering world, the problem of life would be left unsolved, the valley of the shadow of death without light, and hope would be buried in the same grave that receives our bodies.

How poor and commonplace are all the terms by which we seek to express our belief of the preciousness of the Word of Life. But while we thus prize it, do we realize the extent of the obligations it imposes on us who have freely received, freely to give to others?

Believing the Bible, we must believe it our duty to imitate Him who went about doing good, we must admit the obligation to love our neighbor as ourselves. Since God has appointed no means but human agency for the diffusion of his Word, can we exercise this love and not exert all our powers to give this treasure to the destitute? While we contemplate the sad fate of millions in the gloom of infidelity or the darkness of paganism, we are forced to believe that in our hands are the keys of knowledge, the sole remedy for the world's misery, the only power that can remove from the groaning earth its load of guilt and wo.

When the cry of famine comes from perishing thousands, on some distant shore; where for a season earth, like an unnatural mother, refuses bread to her children, our hearts are moved and our hands are ready to extend relief. It is honorable to our nature that we are so ready to freight our ships with food for the starving. Famine and pestilence are fearful woes, yet their evils are small compared to those that result from a famine of the Word of God. Is it more humane, or as a work of necessity and mercy is it more benevolent to supply the wants of a famine-stricken multitude, than to give the bread of life to those who are ready to perish? Who would not deem it less an evil to die

of hunger, and be thrown uncoffined into his unmarked grave. than to be left to worship idols, ignorant of the character of God and a future state, with none of the consolations which the Bible supplies in life's last hour to the shrinking soul? Should a mariner, in whose ship was ample room and abundant stores, pass on the ocean waste a shipwrecked crew clinging to a dismantled wreck, over which the waves, each moment sweeping, threatened to bury them in ocean depths, and refusing to render assistance, should be leave them to their fate, what a storm of indignation would be poured on his guilty head. How should we treat the wretch who should monopolize the bread of a starving city, or the physician who, having in his possession a remedy that would stay the progress of the wasting pestilence, should leave thousands to perish, content with the indolent satisfaction, that he had the means of preserving himself and his immediate friends? If our indignation with reference to such crimes is just, shall we not deem a neglect to use earnest efforts to give the Bible to the destitute thousands of our own country, and the perishing millions of other lands, as both unchristian and inhuman? Should it come to pass, by any strange event, that only one in our community should possess the Bible, would he not be deemed the most heartless of men, did he not use all possible means to communicate it to others? And is not our estimate of his responsibility the measure of our own?

It is one of the encouraging signs of the times, that Christian men are beginning to realize the extent of their obligations to this cause. But comparatively a few years have passed, since associations like this whose cause we to-day advocate, were formed; yet who can estimate the good they have accomplished in this last half century?

"When they first the work begun, Small and feeble was their day, Now the Word doth swiftly run, Now it wins its widening way."

At first, the cloud was little as a human hand; now, it spreads along the skies and soon shall hang o'er all the thirsty land. This cause, Sir, must triumph. It has the approbation of Heaven, and its prosperity shall increase, till all flesh shall see

was regarded by many good men with coldness and distrust, the timid and the doubtful may oft have asked, "Watchman, what of the night?" In tones of sadness, trusting to the promise, though the evidence was not yet apparent, the watchman replied, "The morning cometh." But now, when we consider the millions of Bibles by this agency distributed, and the hosts gathering to its support, we exclaim in tones of triumph, the morning has come. Even in regions of darkness, the mountain tops appear in its light as vine-clad hills bathed in the warm effulgence of a summer's morning. Soon shall floods of light be poured into the abodes of cruelty, and the noonday glory shall come, when the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the mighty deep.

Hon. N. P. Banks, being then called upon, addressed the audience in a very eloquent manner upon the adaptation of the Bible to the wants of the mind. He closed by alluding to the high and noble objects of the Society, and bespeaking for it the encouragement and aid of all.

After uniting in the Christian doxology, the benediction was pronounced, and the meeting dissolved.

CONSTITUTION.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members: of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and thoose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of incorporation.

SEC. 1. Be it therefore enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Brown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phil-

lips, and others abovenamed, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature, and may have a seal, which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.

- Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- Sec. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.

Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

At the first meeting of the Society under the Act of Incorporation, April 12, 1810, it was

Voted, That on the day of the Annual Meeting of the Society, the Trustees shall elect by ballot, from among the members, an Executive Committee of three persons, to continue in office one year, who shall, at the discretion of the Trustees, sit and consult with them; who shall have the management of the fund and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.

At a special meeting of the Society, Sept. 26, 1816, the Committee previously appointed to consider the subject of forming a connection with the American Bible Society, made the following Report:—

BOSTON, SEPT. 6, 1816.

To the Trustees of the Massachusetts Bible Society:

The Committee appointed at the Annual Meeting of said Society in June last, to consider the subject of said Society's forming a connection with the American Bible Society, have maturely considered the same, and are unanimously of opinion, that it is fit and proper to form such connection agreeably to the Constitution and propositions of said American Bible Society—and recommend to your board to adopt such measures as you shall judge best calculated to carry the same into effect—which is respectfully submitted.

EDWARD H. ROBBINS,

In behalf, and by direction of the Committee.

Whereupon, it was Voted, unanimously, That this report be accepted, it being understood, that the Society do not thereby restrict themselves from acting within their intended sphere of operation.

BY-LAWS.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

ARTICLE I.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice President, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex officio members of the board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice President and Secretaries and Treasurer shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository,—each of said Committees to consist of three persons.

ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them;—the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties;—the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees at all times, however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository annually, four copies of the Common Bible, or the value thereof, (\$1.00,) in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B. The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

BY VIRTUE OF A CONTRIBUTION OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWADES.

*Adams, John Quincy, Quincy.	Gray, Horace,	Boston.
Appleton, Samuel, Boston.	Gray, John C.	66
Appleton, William, "	Green, J. S. Copley,	"
	*Grew, John,	"
Bartlett, Thomas, "		
Bond, George, "	*Hammatt, Mrs. Mary,	"
Brackett, James, Quincy.	Heard, John, Ipswich.	
*Bromfield, Elizabeth, Boston.	Higginson, Stephen, Jr.,	Boston.
*Brooks, Peter C. "	Hill, Henry,	66
Brooks, Peter C., Jr. "	*Holmes, Rev. Abiel, Ca	mbridge.
	How, James,	Boston.
Chase, Hezekiah, Lynn.	*Howe, John,	66
Clap, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston.	Hovey, George O.	46
Clapp, John C. "	*Hyslop, David,	66
*Cobb, Richard, "		
Codman, Charles R. "	Jackson, James,	66
Codman, Mrs. Catharine, "	Jackson, Patrick T.	66
Coolidge, Joseph, "	Joy, Mrs. Abigail,	66
Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca, "	, , and a signal,	
,	Keep, N. C.	66
Dana, Samuel, "	*Knowles, Rev. James D	. "
Dix, Mrs. Elijah, "		
Dorr, John, "	*Lawrence, Amos,	66
Dow, Josiah, "	Locke, Ephraim,	66
*Dowse, Edward, Dedham.	Lowell, Rev. Charles,	66
•	,	
Eager, William, Boston	. Marston, William,	66
Eastburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, "	*McKean, William,	"
*Eliot, Samuel, "	McLean, Mrs. Ann,	66
Eliot, Samuel A. "	'	
Elwell, Robert, "	Newell, Montgomery,	66
Francis, Ebenezer, "	, , ,	
Fearing, Albert, "	Palmer, Rev. Stephen, J	Veedham.
•	Parker, John,	Boston.
*Gibbs, Mrs. Mary, "	Parker, Mrs. Sarah,	66
Gordon, Solomon J. "	*Parkman, Rev. Francis,	66
Gray, Francis C. "	*Parkman, Samuel,	66
Gray, Henry, "	Parkman, Mrs. Sarah,	"

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*Parsons, William,	66	Shaw, Mrs. Hannah,	"
*Perkins, James,	66	*Sigourney, Andrew,	66
*Perkins, James, Jr.	66	Sigourney, Henry,	66
Perkins, Thomas H.	66	*Smith, Samuel,	"
Peters, Edward D.	"		
Phillips, Mrs. Sally,	44	Tappan, John,	66
*Phillips, William,	"	• • •	
Pierpont, Rev. John,	"	*Walley, Samuel H.	46
Prescott, William,	u	Ward, Artemas,	66
,		Welch, John,	66
Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth E.	9 66	Weld, James,	66
Richardson, Benjamin I	. "	Wendell, Mrs. Catharine	∍, "
Ritchie, Andrew, Jr.	66	*White, James,	66
Robbins, Edward H.	"	Wigglesworth, Thomas,	66
*Rogers, Rev. William I	M. "	Winthrop, Thomas L.	66
		Wild, Daniel,	"
*Salisbury Samuel,	4	Worthington, William,	66

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Dana, Luther
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Farwell, A. G.
Farwell, S. T.
Farnsworth, Ezra
Fenno, J. Brooks
Fessenden, Charles B.
Field, John, Jr.
Foster, James H.
Fowler, M. F.
French, Jonathan
Frothingham, Rev. N. L.
Frothingham, Theodore
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Inches, Henderson

James, John W.
Jarves, Deming
Jeffries, John
Jellison, Z.
Johnson, James
Johnson, Samuel
Jones, Henry H.
Jones, Josiah M.
Jones, Nahum

Kendall, Abel, Jr. Kettell, John Kimball, Daniel Kimball, D. B. Kimball, J. B. Kimball, J. R. Kingman, Abner Kuhn, George H.

Lamson, Benjamin Lamson, John Lawrence, Abbott

Lawrence, Amos A. Lawrence, Samuel Lee, H. Leeds, Timothy C. Lincoln, Heman Lincoln, Miner S. Lincoln, W. S. Little, Charles C. Livermore, Isaac Locke, Edward Lombard, A. C. Longley, James Loring, Benjamin Loring, Charles G. Loring, Henry Loring, John G. Lovering, Joseph S. Lowell, John A.

May, F. W. G.
May, John J.
May, Samuel
Mandell, M. J.
Manning, F. C.
Marvin, Theophilus R.
Mason, Robert M.
Maynard, Waldo
Melledge, James P.
Mellen, Moses
McGregor, J.
Mills, Charles H.
Minot, William
Morrill, C. J.

Nash, N. C.
Nason, Daniel
Nazro, C. G.
Nickerson, F.
Noble, Joseph
Norton, Andrews

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Oliphant, Henry D.
Otis, Miss Mary

Palfrey, John G.
Palmer, Julius A.
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Parsons, Theophilus
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Payson, Samuel R. Peck, A. G. Perkins, William Phillips, George W. Phillips, Jonathan Phillips, Thomas W. Phipps, Samuel Pierce, Samuel S. Pike, David Piper, Solomon Pitman, Isaac Plympton, Henry Poor, Nathaniel C. Porter, Edward P. Pray, Lewis G. Proctor, John C. Putnam, J. P.

Quincy, Josiah

Raymond, Emmons Rea, William A. Read, James Read, John H. Reynolds, Edward, Jr. Richards, Reuben, Jr. Richardson, George Richardson, George C. Richardson, Jeffrey Richardson, James B. Kichardson, W. F. Rogers, Henry B. Ropes, Hardy Ropes, William Russell, Charles Russell, Charles T. Russell, Thomas H.

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Salisbury, D. W.
Sampson, George R.
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Sawyer, F. W.
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Sewall, Benjamin
Sewall, Moses
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Shaw, Lemuel
Shaw, Robert G.
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Tappan, Lewis W. Taylor, Charles Tebbets, J. K. Templeton, John Tenney, William P. Thayer, G. W. Thayer, Gideon F. Thaxter, Adam W. Thaxter, Benjamin Thompson, Newell A. Thwing, S. C. Ticknor, George Tilton, Stephen, Jr. Timmins, H. Tobey, Edward S. Torrey, Samuel

Train, Samuel
Tucker, A., Jr.
Tucker, N. W.
Tufts, James
Turner, Otis
Twombly, Alexander H.

Upham, Henry

Vinton, Rev. Alexander H.

Wadsworth, Alexander
Waitt, Henry
Wales, Thomas B.
Wales, Thomas B., Jr.
Ware, Dr. John
Warren, John A.
Warren, John C.
Warren, S. D.
Waterston, Robert
Watts, Francis O.
Weld, E. F.

Weld, William F. Wells, John Wells, Charles Wetherell, John Whipple, John L. Whiston, F. C. White, Ferdinand E. Whiting, Charles A. Whitmore, Charles O. Whitney, Joseph Whiton, David Whittemore, George Whitwell, F. A. Wigglesworth, Edward Wigglesworth, Thomas Wilder, Marshall P. Wilkinson, Arthur Williams, Elijah Williams, Isaac Williams, John Willis, Clement Wolcott, J. H.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

Receipts from May 1, 1852, to May 1, 1853.

DONATIONS.

Annual	Subscriptions of Members,	•	\$ 844	00
	SUFFOLK COUNTY.	•		
Boston,	Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex St. (1 L. M. A. B.	s.) .	163	65
44	" Rev. Dr. Blagden, Old South,	•	95	37
66	Rev. Mr. Clark, East Boston,	•	23	83
66	" Rev. Mr. Dexter, Pine Street,	•	64	29
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44	" Rev. Dr. Waterbury, Bowdoin Street, .	•	123	00
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44	M. E. Church, East Boston,	•	9	13
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46	M. E. Church, Bromfield Street, (2 L. M. A. B. S.) .	•	60	00
66	Episcopal Mission for Seamen,	•	5	00
66	William R. Lawrence, (for A. B. s.)		150	00
66	Mr. James M. Whiton, (1 L. M. A. B. S.).		30	00
46	Mr. Hurd, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	•	30	00
66	Mrs. Abigail F. Salisbury,	•	20	00
. 66	Mrs. McLoud,		2	00
66	A Friend 1 00; do. 1 00; do. 50 cts.; do. 2 00; do.	5 00;		
	do. 2 33,	•	11	83
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ESSEX COUNTY.

Amesbury and Salisbury, Congregational Church and	Society,	. 38	30
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1 00,	• •	. 45	04
" A Friend,	• •		00
Bradford, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.	•		60
Danvers, Second Congregational Church and Society, Georgetown, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L.			<i>5</i> 0
Haverhill, Centre Cong. Church and Society, (3 L. M.			16
Ipswich, Society of Rev. Mr. Fitz, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	•		00
Marblehead, A Friend, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)			00
Methuen, Society of Rev. Mr. Phillips, (3 L. M. A. B. s.		. 91	71
" Joseph Howe, Esq. (2 L. M. A. B. S.) .	•		00
Rockport, Cong. Church and Society, (2 L. M. A. B. S.)	balance,	. 40	00
Salem, South Church,	• •		05
" Society of Rev. Dr. Emerson,	• •		00
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MIDDLESEX COUNTY:			
Cambridge, Shepard Cong. Church and Society, (2 L.	36 A 70 G	.) 05	90
Charlestown, Union Methodist Episcopal Church,	M. A. B. S	•	82 13
" Winthrop Congregational Church and So	 cietv.		00
Concord, Young Ladies' Union Bible Society, (4 L. M.	• •		00
Dunstable, First Congregational Church and Society,			52
Dracut, Society of Rev. Mr. Merrill,	• •	. 2	05
Groton, Union Church and Society, (2 L. M. A. B. S.)	• •	. 60	00
Holliston, Society of Rev. Mr. Tucker,	• •		00
Littleton, Congregational Church and Society,	• •		90
Lowell, Appleton Street Church, Mon. Concert, . "Worther Street Methodist Enisconal Church	• •		75
"Worthen Street Methodist Episcopal Church, Medford, Mystic Congregational Church and Society,			00
" Second Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.)			60 75
Natick, First Congregational Church and Society,	, ·		50
Reading, Old South Church,			68
Saxonville, Congregational Church and Society, .	• •		64
Sherburne, Female Reading and Benev. Society, (1 L.	M. A. B.	s.)	
balance,	• •	. 8	00
South Reading, Congregational Church and Society,	• •		15
Sudbury, Union Evangelical Church and Society,	• •		36
Townsend, Society of Rev. Mr. Sheldon,	• •		00
Wayland, Trinitarian Church and Society,	• •		25
Winchester, Congregational Church and Society, Woburn, First Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. 8.)	• •		75
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WORCESTER COUNTY.

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Athol, Evangelical Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	32	00
Clinton, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M. A. B. S.)	60	00
Fitchburg, Religious Charitable Society, (2 L. M. A. B. S.)	74	77
Gardner, Society of Rev. Mr. Paine,	14	00
Grafton, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
Harvard, Association,	27	70
Lancaster, Evangelical Church and Society,	15	00
Leominster, Association,	26	26
Lunenburg, Association, (1 L. M. A. B. S., in part,)	20	42
Millbury, First Congregational Church and Society,	27	50
" Second " " "	27	37
Northborough, Evan. Cong. Society,		00
" " " A Friend, (1 L. M. A. E. S.)		00
Shrewsbury, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		00
Southborough, Pilgrim Church and Society,		13
Templeton, David Whitcomb, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		00
" Society of Rev. Mr. Sabin,		00
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Uxbridge, William C. Capron, Treasurer, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	90	50 50
West Boylston, A Friend,	107	_ •
Westborough, Evan. Cong. Ch. and Soc. (1 L. D. A. B. S.) balance,		
Westford, Association,	11	00
Westminster, Congregational Church and Society,		77
Whitinsville, Northbridge, Congregational Church and Society, .	105	00
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Winchendon, North, Society of Rev. Mr. Marvin,	\$869	
Winchendon, North, Society of Rev. Mr. Marvin,	\$ 869	09
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY. Amherst, North, Society of Rev. Mr. Fisher, Belchertown, Congregational Church and Society,	\$869 19 102	09
Winchendon, North, Society of Rev. Mr. Marvin,	\$ 869	09
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY. Amherst, North, Society of Rev. Mr. Fisher, Belchertown, Congregational Church and Society,	\$869 19 102	09 00 00 00
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HAMPSHIRE COUNTY. Amherst, North, Society of Rev. Mr. Fisher, Belchertown, Congregational Church and Society, Easthampton, Payson Church and Society, HAMPDEN COUNTY. HAMPDEN COUNTY. HAMPDEN COUNTY. HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.—James Brewer, 2d, Springstone Blandford, Church and Society, Chicopee, Society of Rev. Mr. Clark, "Methodist Episcopal Church, "Falls, Society of Rev. Mr. Wright, Longmeadow, Gent's Association, 34 89; Ladies', do. 22 22, Ludlow, Society of Rev. Mr. Tuck, Monson, Gent's Bible Society, 30 97; Ladies' do. 49 84,	\$869 19 102 100 \$221 eld, Tr. 10 18 12 32 57 31	09 00 00 00 00 75 00 71 11
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Charlemont, East Con	gregations	d Society	, .	•	•	•	. 1	8	49
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" Orthodox C	Congregation	onal Socie	ety,	•	•	•	. 1	6	00
" South	"	46		•	•	•		•	75
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BERKSHIRE COUNTY. Great Barrington, "H. N." 10 00 NORFOLK COUNTY. Braintree, From a Friend to the Bible Cause, 100 00 Society of Rev. Dr. Storrs, (1 L. M. A. B. S.) 30 57 Dorchester, A Friend, (of which 10 00 for A. B. S.) 20 00 Miss Jane M. Hamilton, (1 L. M. A. B. s.) . 30 00 " Village Church, (1 L. M. A. B. S.) 30 75 Society of Rev. Mr. Means, **133 05** Franklin, Society of Rev. Mr. Hunt, . 69 76 Medway, Mr. and Mrs. Hurd, (2 L. M. A. B. S.) . 60 00 Village Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.) 36 50 A Friend, **5** 00 Milton, Joseph Rowe, Esq. . 10 00 First Evangelical Church and Society, 16 40 Quincy, Evan. Cong. Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.) balance, 12 00 Randolph, Congregational Church and Society, . 26 10 East, A Friend to the Bible Cause, 10 00 Roxbury, Eliot Church and Society, . 148 91 Walpole, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, 18 00 Wrentham, Society of Rev. Mr. James, 18 19 **\$**775 23 BRISTOL COUNTY. Attleborough, Leperlette Sweet, (1 L. M. A. B. S.) **30 00** Fall River, Central Congregational Church and Society, 75 00 Norton, L. M. Wheaton, 10 00 Raynham, Miss Ruth Gilmore, . 1 00 Taunton, Trinitarian Congregational Society, 40 24 **2156 24** PLYMOUTH COUNTY. PLYMOUTH COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.—J. H. Loud, Esq., Plymouth, Tr. Abington, Society of Rev. Mr. Ward. . 34 46 East, Society of Rev. Mr. Walker, **20 00** Rev. Mr. White, North, 13 77 South, Congregational Church and Society, 30 72 Mr. and Mrs. S. Vining, (2 L. M. A. B. S.) 60 00 Bridgewater, Society of Rev. Mr. Brigham, 20 25 E. & W. Bridgewater, Society of Rev. Mr. Wilcox, 21 00 Duxbury, Wesleyan Methodist Church, 8 61 Marshfield, Society of Rev. Mr. Alden, 19 08

42 50

Middleborough, First Parish,

Middleborough, North, Congregational Church and Society, .	22	60
North Bridgewater, Society of Rev. Mr. Huntington,	50	00
"Benevolent Asso. in do	33	50
Society of Rev. Mr. Couch,		40
" Porter Evangelical Cong. Church and Society,		
(1 L. D. A. B. s.) balance,	125	68
·	\$ 523	57
BARNSTABLE COUNTY.		
BARNSTABLE COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.—Dea. John Munroe, Barnst	able, T	r.
Dennis, South, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	40	00
Falmouth, Miss E. D. Cornish,	2	00
Wellfleet, Second Congregational Church and Society,	3	83
From the Treasury of the Auxiliary,	26	01
	\$ 71	84
MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS.		
A Friend, 5 00; do. 2 00; do. 2 00,	9	00
Castine, Me., A. Friend,	1	38
Saco, Me., Benevolent Society in First Parish,	25	00
Stoddard, N. H., Mrs. Rebecca B. Duncan, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
Thetford, Vt., Cong. Ch. and Society, (2 L. M. A. B. S.) balance, .	5 0	00
White Pigeon, Mich., Mr. Adolphus Chapin, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	32	50
	\$147	88
LEGACIES.		
Dorchester, Walter Baker, by Eleanor J. W. Baker, Edmund J.		
Baker, and John H. Robinson, Executors,	500	00
Reading, Daniel Chute, by Samuel W. Carter, and Benjamin C.		
Sanborn, Executors,	100	00
Royalston, Dea. George Coffin, by Silas Coffin, Executor, for		
Home distribution, 15 00, for Foreign do. 15 00,	30	00
	\$630	00
Sales at Depository, Interest on invested funds, &c	10,938	90
Amount acknowledged in the preceding lists,	319,771	06

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

BELONGING TO THE

MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY.

The evidences of which were exhibited to the Auditor, May 20, 1853.

Six Shares in Massachusetts Bank,	•	•	•	\$1,500	00
Four Shares in City Bank,	•	•	•	400	00
Sixteen Shares in Granite Bank, .				1,600	00
Ten Shares in Boston Bank, .	•	•	•	500	
				\$4,000	00
Five Shares in Marblehead Marine Ins	ura	nce C	0.	500	00
Loans to the American Bible Society,	•	•	•	9,470	00
Loan on collateral security,				3,200	
Books on hand in the Depository,				•	
Due from the American Bible Society		•			
on account,		681	80		
Due from sundry persons on account,		_			
		3,271	05		
Less amount due Auxiliary Societies	s,				
payable in books,		170	08		
				3,100	97
Cash on hand,	•	•	•	1,753	
				\$22,024	54

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It should be observed, NUMBERS VARY FROM YEAR TO YEAR.

1853.

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ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING,

BOSTON.

MAY 29, 1854, BEING THE XLV. ANNIVERSARY.

Published by Order of the Trustees.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN, 42 CONGRESS STREET.

1854.



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ANNUAL REPORT.

THE review of another year must begin, as did the preceding, with mention of the departed. Since our last Anniversary, the Society has been bereaved,—as the presence and voice of his successor have reminded us,—of its President, the Hon. SIMON GREENLEAF. For five years he occupied the post, now devolved on another, his friend and professional associate. He brought to that post, a wide and well-earned reputation; faculties in their vigor and maturity; a heart in lively and intimate communion with the Scriptures; his pen tongue prompt and practiced in their defence, his life their exemplification. How well he filled his place, how cheerfully he co-operated with any who would co-operate with him, with what dignity and urbanity he presided on these occasions, how contagious was the influence of his large, catholic, benignant, now sainted spirit, we need not linger to portray. Besides its President, the Society mourns the loss of one of its most venerable and revered Trustees, the Rev. Dr. Sharp. He has left none more punctual, more attentive, more sincerely devoted to the cause. The standard version, which we circulate, was his version. He wished no other, and no better. It was orthodox enough, nor would he spare a plank from the platform, none too broad already, for Christian brethren to stand upon. These rest from their labors, and their works do follow them.

There have been issued from the Depository, the past year, 12,997 Bibles and 22,528 Testaments, making a total of 35,525.

Of these, 33,788 were in the English, and 1,737 in various foreign languages.

The gratuitous issues have been 3,533 Bibles, and 3,092 Testaments, making a total of 6,625 Bibles and Testaments.

Of these, 6,034 were in the English, and 591 in foreign languages. They have been appropriated as follows:—to seamen, 1,968; to city missions, 792; to public institutions and public houses, 308; to Germans in Boston and vicinity, 134; to Sabbath schools, 798; to destitute families and individuals in Massachusetts, 1,836; and the remaining 789 abroad.

The income of the Society, for the year ending April 30, has been \$21,855 40; of which were from donations and annual subscriptions, \$9,698 76; from sales, \$10,785 84; and from all other sources, \$1,370 80. The amount in the Treasury at the commencement of the year was \$1,753 57, making the total available means, \$23,608 97. The expenditures, during the year, have been as follows:—for Bibles and Testaments, \$14,980 51; donations to

the American Bible Society, \$3,490; expense of annual meeting and printing annual report, \$98; rent and insurance, \$170; freight and postage, \$131 61; wrapping paper, twine and stationery, \$74 80; fuel, water, and incidental expenses, \$43 16; commissions for collecting annual subscriptions, \$62 40; salary of general agent, depository agent and assistant, \$2,200; traveling expenses of general agent, \$230 94; total, \$21,481 42;—leaving a balance in the Treasury for future use, of \$2,127 55.

There has been an advance over the preceding year, in our treasury receipts, from sales and donations, of \$2,000 and upwards.

This increase would have been greater, but for the temporary curtailment of our supplies of Bibles and Testaments,—the Parent Society, in consequence of its removal from the old to the new Bible House, having been unable, during two months, to furnish us a single copy.

The Recording Secretary and General Agent of this Society, Rev. D. BUTLER, has continued his labors, and brings favorable reports of the reception he has met with, and of the strengthening hold of this object on the public confidence. Such gates as are open to him, he enters. Where pastors desire his aid upon the Sabbath, he furnishes it. Where they consent to present the cause themselves, he gladly supplies them with any statistics and facts in his possession. Ministerial and kindred associations he visits and addresses, as opportunity offers. Is not the hope a reasonable one, that year by year,

the several churches and denominations represented in this Society will take this matter more seriously in hand, and contribute each its quota, both of money and exertion, to the common cause?

The Trustees, at a late meeting, empowered and instructed the Executive Committee to take measures for a general distribution of the Scriptures over the Commonwealth. The Committee are making arrangements to carry out these instructions. Agent will be employed to visit the several counties and towns, and ascertain and supply the destitution. It is important that no family, or individual, be left unprovided. Where copies can be sold, they will be sold, as more likely to be preserved and read, and as leaving funds intended to be charitable, to their legitimate uses. Where either the desire to own, or the ability to purchase is wanting, a copy may be bestowed gratuitously, at the discretion of the Agent. The Committee would urge it on the good people of the Commonwealth, pastors and laymen, to lend this enterprise their countenance and cooperation. If they will but organize, appoint committees, volunteer in person, search out the needy, carry this sacred boon from house to house, from heart to heart, it is believed they may discover a new meaning in the Saviour's declaration, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

May we not be speak for this cause, generally, an increased interest, increased contributions, increased personal efforts,—at least on the part of those who are, nominally, its friends and patrons?

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Forty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Bible Society was held in the upper vestry of the Central Church, Boston, on Monday, May 29, 1854. The Report of the Treasurer was read and accepted, and Officers for the ensuing year elected. The Committee on the disposal of the loans heretofore made to the American Bible Society made their Report, which was accepted. The further consideration of the subject was referred to the Trustees, to report at the next Annual Meeting. The members of the Society then proceeded to the church, where the public services of the Anniversary were held. The Scriptures were read and prayer offered by Rev. Charles Brooks, of Boston. The President, Hon. Richard Fletcher, then addressed the assembly as follows:

The Bible Society of Massachusetts, in the progress of time and by the blessing of Heaven, has this day reached its Forty-fifth Anniversary. With much occasion for thankfulness to a kind Providence, our meeting to-day is not without its source of sadness. We miss the presence of that eminent and excellent man, who at our last anniversary occupied this chair. The name of the Hon. Simon Greenleaf has been added to the obituary list with the honored and venerated names of Phillips and Pierce, his predecessors in the presidency of this Society. The life and character of Mr. Greenleaf, the high Christian principles by which he was guided in the discharge of all the duties of life, his labors and his achievements, his well earned and his extended fame, would furnish interesting and instructive

topics of discourse. But this occasion allows us only to pay a brief and passing, though a heartfelt tribute of affection and respect to his memory. He had lived nearly up to the scriptural boundary of man's age, when in his peaceful and happy home, with his family about him, his life well spent and his work well done, he was suddenly summoned away. It remains for us who knew him and valued him, to cherish his memory and profit by his example.

The increase in the numbers and the extent of operations of Bible Societies forms an interesting portion of the history of the last half century. A panoramic view would exhibit to us eight thousand Bible Societies stretching around the world, animated by the same spirit, busy in the same work, laboring to place that volume which contains the instructions, the consolations, and the hopes of Christianity, in a language which can be understood, in every human habitation, high and low, cabin, cottage and palace throughout the world. Here is a union of benevolent effort and an extent of co-operation such as the world never saw. Such a movement, so vast and so beneficent, may well lead the reflecting mind to a source of influence higher than man. Acting upon the great Protestant principle, that the Bible and the Bible alone is the foundation of Christian faith, these Societies have but the single work of distributing the Bible. They do not profess to interpret nor to explain it. They stand aloof from doctrinal controversies and sectarian creeds, and they only aim to give to every man of every tongue and every nation the teachings of the Christian Scriptures themselves. Here, most happily, is a work in which, without any compromise of principle, we may heartily engage. We can, I trust and am sure, agree to give to the destitute, the Bible in that version which use for centuries has made familiar, and around which cluster many hallowed associations.

Of the good which these institutions have done, it is not for me at this time to speak. That they have done much, there can be no doubt; and that much remains to be done, is equally true. The spectacle which is now exhibited in the old world, embattled nations gathering their hosts for mutual slaughter, and the sounds of the engines of death which even now come swelling across the water, and the tones of menace that grate on our ears from the high places of our own country, and the scenes around us, impressively tell us how greatly the world needs the influence of the Christian Scriptures. Instead of weapons of war, it were better that every man should bear, in his hand, that Book which inculcates the great principle of human brotherhood, and teaches every man to love his neighbor as himself.

After expressing his pleasure at the fact that his Excellency the Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth was present to cheer them in their work, he took his seat, and the Report of the Executive Committee was read by the Chairman, Rev. George Richards, and on motion of Hon. Charles T. Russell, it was accepted.

The President then introduced the Rev. Daniel March, of Nashua, New Hampshire, who offered the following resolution and remarks:

Resolved, That the Bible, from its perfect adaptation to the essential wants of human nuture, and to the condition of the world as it changes from age to age, is entitled to hold the highest rank as a text-book in all appropriate systems of instruction, and should be relied upon as the most efficient of all instrumentalities for the moral improvement of mankind.

It is not designed, by the resolution, to claim that a very high degree of intellectual culture cannnot be secured without light and direction from the word of God. Or rather, it would be more strictly correct to admit only that high intellectual cultivation has been attained without such aid. For now, happily, the time is past in the history of the world, when it is even possible for the student to become a master in any department of practical knowledge, unaided by influences drawn directly or indirectly from the Bible. Even the skeptical philosopher, who, with lifelong diligence, explores the ever-widening fields of science in laborious search of facts, principles or phenomena with which to invalidate the divine authority of the Scriptures, is only vainly endeavoring to turn against Christianity, those weapons of intellectual warfare, which itself has created and put into his hands. For all science, at least in the practical and effective form which it has assumed in modern times, owes its very existence to the

new life, freedom and activity imparted to the human mind by light radiated from the sacred page. Had not Christianity itself created and cherished a more liberal culture, a freer and more adventurous spirit of inquiry, a wide-spread emancipation from the shackles of superstition, by which the most cultivated nations of antiquity were bound, the skeptics of modern times would have been able to devise objections against the Bible of as little weight, and of as little ingenuity, as those urged by Celsus and Porphyry and Julian within the first four centuries. And in the refutation of theirs, we find their most enduring memorial.

The case ,however, to which the resolution is designed especially to refer, and for which the occasion seems to require us to make out a reasonable justification is this:-From among all the millions of books which have been written, many of them confessedly by the greatest and wisest of men, the Bible Society selects one, composed by more than thirty different authors, at different periods of time, extending through fifteen centuries, in a land far remote from this, among a people having no other literature, and shut out from intercourse with other nations, by the threefold barrier of national prejudice, established custom and sacred law. And the Bible Society resorts to extraordinary measures to secure "the distribution of this one volume among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere," and the Great and General Court of this most enlightened and prosperous State of Massachusetts, forty-four years ago, in the solemn act of incorporation, pronounced "the objects of this Society pious And for nearly half a century, on the return of and laudable." this Anniversary, many voices have spoken in terms of high and eloquent congratulation upon the success which has attended the labors put forth in this sacred enterprise. And this Society still stands forth before the world, with its claim uttered more eloquently in action than in words, that this one volume should find a place in every human dwelling, and that its authority, on all questions of moral obligation, should reign paramount to all others in the individual mind, and in society at large, in this land and in all lands, in this age and in every age of the world's history.

Now, suppose that the Bible were taken from its present position of conceded superiority over all other books, and thrown

back into the great ocean of literature which has been formed from the tributary streams of all time. Suppose we had now, for the first time, taken the book in hand as one of a million, to discuss, not indeed the primary question of its inspiration, but one which comes more directly within the cognizance of the common perceptions and judgments of men,—the question whether this one book discloses, upon fair examination, such an unrivaled and perfect adaptation to the deepest necessities of the human mind, and the changing condition of human society from age to age, as that we may, of right, claim for it the precedence over all other books; and that any system of instruction can better afford to dispense with the authority and influence of all others than with this. Can we find anything in the manner or the matter, the design or the composition of the sacred Scriptures, which will justify us in giving them, by distinction, the title of "The Book," as if in the comparison no other were worthy to be named, the book for man,—the book for the world,—for all the nations and for all the ages?

We cannot, indeed, discuss such a question with entire impartiality. For the first thoughts that were suggested to our infant minds by others, were imbued with reverence for the sacred page. And yet it is not to our disadvantage, as just reasoners on this question, that it is so; for in order that we may prize the Scriptures at anything like their real value, the Bible itself must have first given us the capacity to appreciate its excellence.

And we may with propriety, on this occasion, allow our congratulations over successes already gained, and our mutual encouragements to further effort in the future, to take the form of argument in justification of principles that have already been taken for granted and acted upon for years. And especially at this first convocation of the "holy week," and on the Anniversary of this one Society, the prosperity of which is essential to the success of every other Christian enterprise, we may properly go back to those first principles, which come to seem like axioms in the more advanced stages of Christian culture, but for which, every year shows us that we have still much occasion to give reasons and evidences.

A full discussion of the subject named in the resolution would fill as many pages as the contents of the Scriptures themselves.

I shall only ask your attention, for a few moments, to the peculiar adaptation of the Scriptures to the twofold and apparently conflicting necessities of human nature, arising from the twofold elements and relations of our present being.

Thus, if man is to be instructed to any practical purpose in moral truth, it is necessary that the lesson shall be made simple and easy of comprehension; and it is just as necessary that his instruction shall cost him severe and protracted exertion. is a constant and urgent need to be taught, and yet nothing can give the truth effect, short of as constant an effort to teach one's self. There is a willingness even to be wounded by the shaft of truth, yet an involuntary shrinking from the directness of its aim. And hence our earthly life, even in the pursuit of the noblest aims, and under the most favorable auspices, is a struggle rather than a triumph,—a laborious seeking for the light which is always lost in the moment of attainment. Hence the progress of the human mind, from age to age, has been not inaptly compared to that of a ship at sea, advancing against a head wind, as sailors say, by tacking,—never steering directly toward the point of destination, yet always approaching it,—never touching the line of the true course except to cross it, and never departing from it, except to return. And if man, individually and in society, is thus never at rest—always in motion, and, however improving, always out of the way, the shaft of truth which is to bring fire from heaven to his mind, must be aimed a little one side of the mark. The sun of truth is indeed fixed and forever the same. But the darkling wanderer may be so far off as to change his place many times, while the beam of light is on its passage to guide him through the gloom.

And it is with a perfect adaptation to this changing and complex condition of human nature, that the word of Revelation, which is the sun of truth set in the moral heavens to "guide every wanderer in the straight way," sometimes seems to scatter its beams like stray arrows, only the more surely to reach their aim. Sometimes it gives us a paradox instead of a simple statement, a part of the truth for the whole, a literal contradiction, leaving to the reader the task of discovering the real and spiritual harmony. Sometimes we are to infer the main proposition from a seemingly incidental statement, and then again the

inference is drawn for us while the premises are not given. The whole landscape of life is constantly presented from different points of view, and the successive scenes, however unlike each other they may seem to the beholder, must be combined by him into one harmonious panorama. Our earthly sojourn, dark from the obscurities of imperfect knowledge, and contracted from the limited scope of present faculties, is diversely illuminated by rays shot in through different loop-holes from the sun of Revelation, and the light thus admitted, is diversely colored, and made to give a various aspect to the same scene in the eyes of different beholders, by the earthly medium of times and customs and opinions of men through which it must pass. And thus travelers upon the same journey, tenants of the same home, see the world, and life, and God, and heaven, and eternity, under very different aspects, and they draw from the same outward facts, conclusions which clash upon each other, like steel upon tempered steel.

Now, in these infinitely diversified contrasts and correspondences of light and shade, communicativeness and reserve, found in the Bible, we recognize one evidence of its perfect adaptation to the changing condition of the human race from age to age, and to the diverse characteristics of individual minds. In this, consists much of its wonderful power to reprove sin while sparing the sinner—to inspire man with the strength to "do all things," while making him feel that he is but a worm of the dust—to retain a firm hold upon the conscience, while proud reason struggles madly to shake off its grasp-to enable man to glory most in his liberty, when he subjects himself most to the sovereign dictation of Another's will—to recall the outcast from the error of his way with the most winning voice, while speaking with thunders of wrath against the sins that he loves most passionately. The Bible, therefore, is the only book in the world which, while dealing with the most awful interests, dares to handle them so diversely,—to give so little here, and so little there, and so much in the great whole of its instructions, as to be most certain of correcting every shade of human error, and of pouring light into the darkest depths of human ignorance. The divine intuition of the Scriptures alone, has so perfectly anticipated all the aberrations of the human mind, as that the light of truth, sphered in the sun of Revelation, and sent forth on its circuits through the world ceuturies ago, meets every wanderer at the point to which the path of error has brought him to-day.

Another aspect in which we may view the twofold adaptation of the Scriptures to be the book of all times, all races of men, is seen in their capacity to meet and satisfy the constant craving of the human mind, equally for knowledge and for mystery. The habitual impulses of every active mind, afford sufficient evidence that that craving exists, and in such excess, as that it can be satisfied only with full permission to explore the whole boundless field of knowledge, while yet always under the necessity of acknowledging, that, however much is known, there are still depths of wisdom unsearchable, and ways of just and intelligent judgment past finding out.

Of the teachers of religion who abandon the Bible as their only safe guide, a part fall into the extreme of encouraging men to accept nothing as matter of faith, unless its whole nature and consequences can be comprised within the scope of human knowledge, and subjected to the decisions of human reason. And thus, beginning with the endeavor to make their hearers as gods unto themselves, they end by making them something worse than men. The other class, and sometimes even this, by a violent reaction from the first extreme, proceed to that of assuming that "ignorance is the mother of devotion," and mystery is the substance and groundwork of faith. They would teach men to believe that they believe what is impossible, even because it is impossible. And having thus attempted the greatest conceivable violence against the human understanding, they are only too successful in making the moral nature share in the common ruin.

The divine text-book does infinitely better than either of these blind guides, who assume to dispense with its instructions. It proves its own entire harmony with the twofold constitution of the mind, as well as with the grand scheme of nature and of providence, by bringing forth from its exhaustless treasures of wisdom, things new and old; the old creating the necessity for the new, and the new teaching the meaning of the old. It has lessons of divine wisdom simple enough for the comprehension

of the child, and mysteries deep enough to baffle and confound the philosopher. It appears to guide the erring pilgrims of a darkened world, like the twofold symbol of Jehovah's presence which went before the wandering tribes in the wilderness, and brought them safely to their final rest. Its light leads by the clear disclosure of the way in which the earthly pilgrim may travel in safety, and its cloud guides too, by showing in what direction the deep darkness, the one incomprehensible mystery lies. Thus the divine Word discloses its double fitness, on the one hand, to pour light into the darkened understanding of the simple, more than satisfying their utmost want by the fullness of its gracious revelation; and on the other, convincing the most highly cultivated, that, however much they may learn, there will still remain depths of knowledge which they cannot fathom, and heights of wisdom which they cannot scale. We may therefore say in something like a scriptural paradox, that the Bible is at once the plainest and the most mysterious of all books. should say that it is the plainest, from its success in giving understanding to the simple; the most luminous, from the light which it pours upon the path of them that are wandering in darkness; the most quickening and suggestive, from the new life which it imparts to the most sluggish mind. The poor peasant, shut out in some retired corner from the noise and commotion of the great world, knowing nothing of the wealth and splendors of literature, never having had the remotest conception of the grandeur and infinite extent of the fields of creation explored by adventurous science, needs nothing more than the unenlarged, unabridged Book of inspiration to learn what is to him the one great secret of the universe—to comprehend all that he needs most to know of the mystery of mysteries. And if living messengers had come to his lowly dwelling from all worlds, to tell him the secrets of their far habitations, and to fill his mind with all that they had learned in the long journey, they could not all tell him anything so important as that which he learns without their help from the word of revelation. And therefore to him the sacred volume has so much of light, that, with the most unaffected earnestness and simplicity, he calls it the plainest of all books. And yet, just as truly might he say, it is the most mysterious. Much as it reveals, and clear as it makes what were otherwise

immitigably dark, it indicates the reality of much more that it does not undertake to explain, and it enlarges our comprehension as if only to show us how little we can know. It opens a longer vista through the past and the future in the history of eternal providence, only to show that no finite vision can comprehend its utmost extent. Though from revelation we derive the only sure and satisfactory solution of the fearful and wonderful problem of our own being and everlasting destiny, still, from the same source we derive suggestions for further inquiry, and incentives to still more daring speculation, by pursuing which, we "find no end, in wandering mazes lost."

We all admire the humility of the great philosopher, who, after all his profound investigations and discoveries, seemed to himself but as a child, wandering upon the sea-shore, gathering here and there a shell or a pebble, while the great ocean of truth lay all unexplored beyond. And we recognize the general principle, that humility ever accompanies the truest greatness. influences upon which we can permanently rely for the highest improvement of human nature, must therefore possess a twofold fitness to humble and to exalt. And this fitness, to an extraordinary degree, we find in the Word of God. Of all other books, it most humbles man, and at the same time exalts him most. It strikes a mortal blow at the very root of all human pride, and yet it never casts down to enslave or to crush, but to exalt and It shows man how weak and worthless he is in himself, only that he may be persuaded to lay hold on infinite strength for his helper, and perfect righteousness for his justification. exposes the vanity of the fallen creature with such truthful and terrible severity, that he cannot find even an apron of fig-leaves with which to hide his shame; and yet, on the same page, it encourages him to hope for unspeakable glory, and honor, and eternal life, and even now to maintain a dignity of character befitting his heirship to such an exalted inheritance. made some of the greatest and best men, that have ever lived, so unutterably dissatisfied with their very excellences of character, as to express their feeling of self-abasement in terms of loathing and abhorrence. And yet it has at the same time fitted them to hold coequal companionship with archangels, and to walk in holy communion with the Highest. The Bible alone, of all

books, tells man most fully what an imcomparable excellency of being has been conferred on him in his creation, how exalted and infinitely expansible are the powers which compose the essential elements of that being, and which must continue to live and act and grow by action forever. Imagination, in its boldest flight, when uninstructed by revealed truth, dares not accord such a nobility to the existence and destiny of man, as is freely given him on those very pages of inspiration which most deeply wound his pride, and denounce the utter nothingness and vanity of all his selfish and ambitious schemes. And, in this respect, the inspired text-book takes the only true and philosophical course to bring its intractable pupil to appreciate, and justly to regard his present condition and his endless destiny. He must be humbled before he can be exalted. He must be emptied of his vain pride and selfish conceit, before true wisdom, nobleness of character, can find any place in his mind.

It is also an essential requisite in the influences which shall do most for the improvement of human nature, that they shall act from an independent and external source, and, while they transfer the supreme interest of the human heart to other and higher scenes of existence, they shall yet secure the most minute and faithful regard for all the appropriate duties and concerns of earth and time. And this condition is fulfilled in perfection by the Word of God. The Bible is the book which stands farthest aside from the beaten track of human thought, and yet is best adapted to all the peculiarities of individual minds, and to all the varying opinions and exigencies of every age. discursive may have been the range of the human mind in any age, among any people, there is but one source to the influences by which it has been led to the expression of such thoughts, and the maintenance of such principles, as are found in the Psalms and the Prophets, in the Gospels and the Epistles of the sacred There is little evidence to be gathered from history, that the human mind, left to itself for however many centuries, would have ever fallen upon such trains of thought as are presented in the Sermon on the Mount, and in the Saviour's last words to his disciples on the night of his betrayal. And although the influence of Christianity may be traced more or less distinctly, in all the activities of the age, and although the principles of its divine

morality have been written, as by the finger of God, upon the consciences of millions who live in practical rejection of its authority, still the Bible stands apart from all human productions as much in its originality of thought, as in the spirit of its instructions. Its grand scheme for the renovation of the world, is all its own. Its method of giving power and acceptableness to the most unwelcome instructions, is all its own. The consummation toward which it aims, in assuming to be the sole permanent constitution for the reorganization of society, and the supreme law for the development of individual life, has nothing to do with any schemes or inventions of man. Redemption, its one great theme,—its most original and dominant thought, even while mingling with the myriad thoughts of men, still maintains its purity, originality and separate aim; even as the crystal stream of the mountain flowing through a stagnant lake, marks its whole course with a line of light, and issues clear upon the other side, without losing itself in the turbid element through which it passes.

And yet, while the sacred Word thus stands apart from the beaten track of human thought, it discloses a perfect adaptation to all the new and various exigencies of every age, to the individual peculiarities of every mind, and to all the minute questions of duty which arise in the most diverse and complex relations of society. Whoever comes to the study of the sacred volume, in earnest to discover what special fitness it has for his own personal instruction, on subjects of the greatest possible interest to his well-being, will be constrained in the end to say from a full heart,—'This book was all written for me.' However perplexed and wearied may be any honest inquirer for the lessons of truth and the way of duty, he never turns with becoming reverence to the heavenly oracles for instruction, without seeing light for himself in the light of revelation. The general condition of the world, the usages of society, and the current opinions among men, have greatly changed, in some instances have been wholly reversed, since the record of inspiration was completed. yet the more thoroughly and intelligently we test the fitness of the Bible to be made the leading text-book in the moral instruction of all classes, the more evidence do we gather that it is the book for the time, and that it will be for all ages and all nations of men.

We can find a sufficient justification of these high claims for the Bible in its special fitness to minister equally to the demands of the present and the future. For while it draws men aside most effectually from the absorbing interests of earth and time, it secures the most faithful discharge of every present duty, and the most full and grateful improvement of every temporal bless-It enables man to attain a sublime and invincible indifference to the gains and the losses, the joys and sorrows of this earthly state, by fixing his most cherished hopes upon infinite and eternal riches yet to be secured. Instructed by the divine philosophy of the Scriptures in the superior worth and perfect attainableness of endless joys in the future, man can sincerely glory in the loss of all earthly possessions, in the disappointment of all earthly hopes. And yet again there are no precepts of morality, there are no laws of the state, which can equal the Scriptures in making men observant of every present obligation, and wise for the improvement of every earthly advantage. Whereever the Bible is received and read with believing and obedient hearts, there multiply the peaceful homes of a prosperous and happy population. There, all the ties of kindred and of country are most sacredly observed. There, everything which contributes to the comfort and embellishment of private life, is increased a hundred fold. There, the earth, wrought by the hand of intelligent and persevering toil, brings forth most abundantly to fill the store-house, and to gladden the heart of man. There, the mightiest forces and the most intractable materials in nature, are made to toil for man by the cunning compulsion of inventive From thence riches and blessing fly forth to all lands and return again with added worth, upon the white wings of a worldsurrounding commerce.

There is but one Book in the world of which the half of all this can be told in respect to its influence in securing temporal prosperity to man. And it is the same Book upon whose instructions alone man can rely, for the ultimate attainment of a prosperity which shall be limited in degree only by the extent of his faculties, and which shall be measured in duration only by his own immortal being.

Rev. Rufus Ellis, of Boston, offered the following:

Resolved, That in an age and land marked by a singular abundance of cheap, popular literature, it is especially incumbent upon Christians to scatter the Book of books far and wide, to put it under the eyes, and press it upon the notice of every father and mother, and young man and maiden, within our borders.

Mr. Ellis said, I have sometimes thought, Mr. President, that those who are in the habit of criticizing the age, and who make great complaint of its absorption in material pursuits, its devotion to the mechanic arts and to mercantile enterprise, to the building of factories, railroads, steamships, and the like, do not always fully realize what an advantage has been gained for the mind and heart by the newly acquired skill of the hands. Foremost amongst the machines so much abused, yet so much desired, we see the Printing Press; and we may well bear in mind, that if it is occupied in one building in putting forth the mammoth journal of Trade, in the very next building, perhaps, it is giving us the whole Word of God, at the rate of a copy for every three moments, which is, I believe, the ability of the press in the New York Bible House. That, Sir, I think, even Baruch, the Scribe, would acknowledge to be an improvement over the best and the most skilful of copyists. We have divine authority for the statement that the children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light; may we not trust that the balance is not now so entirely in favor of the less deserving party? And yet, even more of their wisdom is needed; for it becomes plainer every day, in this busy world, that if we would save men's souls, we must make a business of it in a good, earnest way. Now it is worth noting, that the wisdom of this generation consists largely in this; that its children understand and adapt themselves to the existing circumstances of the world in which they live,—they do not through day-dreams and unceasing retrospection always live in the past, continually, a few years at least, behind their contemporaries; they keep their eyes and their ears open to the sights and sounds of the streets through which they are passing; they do not gather the signs of the times out of musty folios; they read them over the doors of the shops, into and out from which the living wave is forever passing. They do not pound lustily at some nail which is stuck fast in a

knot; they strike the nail that will go; that or none at all. they have goods to sell, and men will not come and buy, they send after purchasers, by the multitude of advertisements, making a daily proclamation to thousands of ears, intercepting the way to our doors by their handbills, leaving no occasion, whatever, for the plea of ignorance. Now, Sir, what the friends of religion, as it is taught by God in the Bible, need, is a thorough knowledge of the world they live in, and a hearty zeal to adapt their methods to the special exigencies of time and place, knowledge of what is going forward in the great crowd,—the spirit, the taste, the favorite occupations of the multitude at any given time. And when we pass the great book establishments in our cities, and see the masses of literature piled up as one might pile bales of cotton and linens in the warehouses, ready to be rolled along the rail to distant states, when we hear that often the demand outruns the supply, and that the press scarcely rests day or night, we may well realize the importance of the question, Does the Bible go wheresoever the Legion of books goes? not plain that all is lost, if that does not keep even pace? When one thinks of the mass of vile stuff heaped up in the depots of cheap literature in city and village, in every corner where there is but a score of reading eyes, where the schoolmaster has been even but a short time; when we think of the deadly poison, gross or subtle, which these books so often administer to the unwary, how entirely fitted many of them are, to sap the soul, and plunge it into hell; what comfort can we find save in the thought that this, and similar agencies, are scattering far and wide the seed of the Divine Word—that seed which hath the promise? I am aware, Sir, that the persons who are specially drawn to the light literature of the day, and who would not be likely to supply themselves with the greatest and best of books, are not persons, who, in ordinary circumstances, would take up the blessed volume when it chanced to lie within their reach. But it should be there, waiting the good time of God. I would strive to imitate in this work the large profusion of Him who worketh hitherto in the natural world. I would have no stinting, no unwise parsimony. That great Hand, in whose hollow we are all held, scatters upon the wings of the winds the germs of plants without number, and only a portion of them ever

develope into herb and tree; but the Sacred Providence seems resolved upon this, that there shall be enough; that what we call waste is better than that there should be any lack. how, through some process or other, I would be sure that the young man or young woman who has just purchased at the bookstall a work of fiction which will certainly do no good, and may do much harm, should find in the room at the boarding-house a fair and legible copy of the great Book of all. For one in a score—for one in a hundred, there may be a time when that Book of Life will find its opportunity; it is worth the while that it should be there waiting for that time, even as the Lord waiteth year after year, at the door of a human heart. The time may come when that book which has reposed upon the table undisturbed for many long months, may be the occasion, under His providence who gave it to the world, of changing the current of the human heart forever. Taken up in some moment of weariness and despondency, when the burden and mystery of life weigh heavily upon the heart, that blessed Spirit which proceedeth evermore, as of old, from the Father and the Son, will pour light upon the page and gather it into a radiant point upon some promise of guidance and of rest. There are many things which cannot be left to the natural laws of supply and demand; the distribution of the Bible is one of them. It must be found, like its Great Giver, of those who sought it not. It must make its appeal, if not like wisdom at the corners of the streets, and at the entering in of the cites, yet wherever men are inclosed by the firm walls of a house, or by the floating walls of a ship. And what a blessed thing it is, Sir, that we have a Sacred as well as a Satanic press; that we can use for good, what so many are using for evil; only let us multiply Bibles with the same earnestness that is manifested by so many, in multiplying books of pernicious tendency, and we are doing something to good purpose, on the right side; we are using, at least, one mighty instrument, defensive and offensive, in the war that goes forward to-day as ever, between God and the devil. And let me add, Sir, though it may be only by the way, that there is great wisdom in the method practised by the Society of placing Bibles in the way of the traveller, in the lodging-rooms of inns and the saloons Travelling is a sore trial to human virtue. of steam-boats.

There are many who are safe enough amidst the restraints of home, but who have no root in themselves, and are an easy prey to temptation when once they are cut adrift from their moorings. Even the sight of the Sacred Volume may make such more thoughtful; and if it should so come about, that for lack of occupation, they open the book and read, they may take it up with a freshness of attention, and a freedom from all associations of formality that, under God, may lead to an interest in the volume which they have never felt before.

This, then, is a plain duty to our age, to cast this bread from heaven, far and wide, though it be upon the waters—it will surely find us, though many days may come between the sowing and the reaping.

I know, Sir, that there are those to whom this book of the Word seems perilous, a portion of the very literature against which we would provide an antidote, and accordingly a place has been given to it in the famous Index Expurgatorius of the Romish Church. One cannot help asking what if we should establish such an Index in our land, and place the Douay Bible, the Romish translation of the Scriptures, upon it? Is toleration to be all on one side? But letting that pass, so far as there is any hazard, I am willing to incur it, for the sake of the good that must flow from the freest possible diffusion of the Word of God, without any note or comment whatsoever. In the long run the perils are trifling, the gain incalculable. Every good thing is liable to be abused, and it is the poorest possible argument to conclude from the abuse against the use of a thing. Of course, a skeptical intellect will find a vast deal in the Bible to perplex and stagger it, to feed doubts, and so it will in nature and life, only without the relief which revelation affords. The Book sent forth by this Society may be made the jeer of the scorner. not claimed that it is a panacea, solely, in all circumstances able to convert and sanctify; there must be other agencies, the spoken word of the preacher, the example of the Christian, the influence of the present Spirit of God; but it holds a chief place of power, it cannot be dispensed with, and to minds and hearts, in any degree prepared to profit by it, it is laden with blessings. In its more ancient portion, remember, it is a book which St. Paul had in mind when he recalled, with grateful joy, the fact that his

young convert Timothy had from a child been instructed in the Holy Scriptures; and as to its later portions, it is for the most part made up of words that were published, in the streets and villages of Judea, by the blessed Lord, or sent by the Apostles to be read in the assemblies of Christians. Shall we keep them from the ignorant and unstable, lest they wrest them to their destruction? Shall we keep them shut up, and so encourage the thought that they will not bear the light; or shall we bestir ourselves to instruct and establish the ignorant and unstable, that they may see the glory, worth and efficacy of the Scriptures, and be profited by what they read? There is no other than the latter way, none other, we may be sure, in this nineteenth century, when the floodgates are up, and men are bent upon proving all things.

Let them have the Bible, show them that it is all which it claims to be, let it speak for itself, let one part explain and limit the other; let them have the whole, not extracts, not beauties of the Scripture, but the Old Family Bible, and in the long run plain men, reading with the wisdom of the heart, taught by the experience of life, awed by its deep mysteries, chastened by its sorrows, will find it quick to enlighten and comfort and redeem. Let them have the whole, from Genesis to Revelation, from the glory of creation to that latter day glory, in which heaven and earth are blended, beyond the power of our poor eyes to discern between them,—the whole, because in a grand sense the Book is one, a history of our race under God, not a dry body of divinity, but the tale of human life, in all its conditions, from the throne of the king to the cabin of the slave.

It begins at the beginning, with that era whose story is written nowhere else save upon the rocks and in the deep places of the earth. It dwells with mournful sweetness upon the time when man was joined to God, and had no will save His, and knew no sin. It goes with him, poor prodigal, into his far-off land; it abides with him through the long years of darkness, a gleam of light, through the long years of wickedness, a promise of better days and a heavenly kingdom; it prays for him in psalms which are the litanies of nations; it pleads against him, for him, through the warning lips of prophets, the divinely commissioned reformers of the land; it gains the highest point of

authority and power as the utterance of him whose words were all given to him of God. It is not an abstract lesson. forth under the stress of human life, from hearts burned almost to ashes with the fires of passion and penitence, from the lips of holy confessors and martyrs, singing psalms out of their prison It is the book for the philosopher, unless he be a shallow one, some fool, puffed up with a little science to say in his heart there is no God. It is a book for plain men, eager not now to pry into hidden things, but to hear sure promises and clear precepts, and willing to take for the rest the assurance that the secret of the Lord is with them that fear him. the Family Bible, and let it have, shielded on either side by the covenants, the record of the family life, births which religion alone can make beautiful and hopeful, unions which he who was present at the marriage feast in Cana of Galilee must consecrate, deaths which lose their terrors only when we read of Him who went not up to joy save through that dark passage.

The time comes when the heart asserts its rights against a narrow and shallow understanding, against all the confusions, to which even honest, earnest men are liable. There is a striking illustration of this in what is narrated of the closing moments of the life of the English author, Sterling. A man of fine intellect and earnest spirit, he had become entangled in the web which some indefatigable spiders have spun in the halls of learning, and his Christian faith seems to have been in a measure obscured. His earthly work was ended, his days were numbered, and he was looking forward into what to the human eye seems so often the "Great Darkness." His soul craved consolation, some holy living thought to strengthen itself withal, and they asked him, "What book shall we read to you?" His answer was significant enough. "Read to me," said he, "from the Bible which I used amongst the poor cottagers in Herstmonceux," where he had once served as a curate. His heart recurred not to any finely spun theories, but to the plain Scriptures, which as he spake them had wrought so mightily upon the hearts which are richest in faith. And it must be that Bible too, for doubtless he recalled some hallowed time, when, kneeling in some poor cabin, by the side of some humble, dying saint, he had felt, through the power of the Word, the presence of the ever-living Redeemer. That was the bright spot in his life, to which the man of learning and infinite speculation came back, and he chose to pass, borne upon the melody of the Saviour's words, into open vision. And is it not an impertinence to read any other book in the hearing of the dying?

Let the Bible then go with the great tide of civilization. And that we may be stirred to this, let us use all diligence to make it prized at home. I fear that some of our households take overmuch care of their Bibles. The velvet and the gold indeed befit the precious volume, yet how much more beautiful is the book carefully kept but worn with daily use, and wet with tears,—such a book as our pious fathers read to their households every day of a long life, in joy and in sorrow, when marriage revellers filled the house, and when it was shrouded for the dead. Our young men and maidens must be again reminded that this too, is a book profoundly exciting, a record of heroism; that here, too, deep calleth unto deep; that they are grossly untaught unless they have learned the lessons of Sinai and Calvary; that their pretensions to culture are idle unless they have studied and again studied Isaiah and Job; that they lack still the key to this mystery of living and sinning and loving and repenting and dying, unless they have learned of that disciple who leaned upon the Master's breast, and has revealed to us the depths of that heart where the tides of human and divine love were mysteriously blended. With these poor words upon a theme which beggars all human speech, I leave the Resolution in your hands.

His Excellency, EMORY WASHBURN, Governor of the Commonwealth, made the closing address. We regret that we can present his eloquent remarks, to which the audience listened with deep interest, only in substance:—

Apologizing for his being there, because a layman, on the ground that he had been told that he must speak, and that he owed the honor to his official position, the Governor set forth the indebtedness of Massachusetts to the Bible, and illustrated and enforced the position, that no State can be truly free if the principles of that holy book do not prevail therein. Without the moral police of that volume, there would not be police enough

of any other kind to insure order and government in a free Commonwealth. Destitute of the Bible, Massachusetts could not exist as a free State a single day. He argued that there was no time when the Bible was not wanted; and, appealing to history, showed that attempts to blot out its truths, to deny its principles, had been attended with disastrous consequences. To exemplify the good influence and vitality of the Scriptures, he referred to recent experiences of his own, when on a tour in Europe. The spot where Gibbon resided, near Lake Leman, where he wrote the close of the "Decline and Fall," and attempted to set aside Christianity, was now a hotel, one of the rooms of which had on its door, "This is a Depot of the Bible," and in that room he found a copy of the English Version. In further elucidation of his position, he sketched the marked contrast between the Catholic and Protestant Cantons of Switzerland,—so greatly in favor of the latter,—and described especially what the preaching of the Bible had done for Geneva. In conclusion, he maintained the necessity for renewed exertions for carrying forward the beneficent work of this and its kindred societies.

After the usual Doxology and the Benediction, the meeting was dissolved.

CONSTITUTION.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of incorporation.

SEC. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Brown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phil-

lips, and others abovenamed, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature, and may have a seal, which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.

- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.

Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

BY-LAWS.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

ARTICLE I.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice President, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice President and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository,—each of said Committees to consist of three persons.

ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository annually, four copies of the Common Bible, or the value thereof, (1.00,) in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

BY VIRTUE OF A CONTRIBUTION OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

*Adams, John Quincy, Quincy.

*Appleton, Samuel, Boston.

Appleton, William, "

Atwood, John W., Chatham.

Bartlett, Thomas, Boston.
Bayley, Robert, Newburyport.
Bodwell, Rev. J. C., Framingham.
Bond, George, Boston.
Bowers, Luke K. "
Bowers, Mrs. Cara H., Boston.
Brackett, James, Quincy.
Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgetown
Brant, Aaron, South Reading.
Brooks, Peter C. "
Brooks, Peter C., Jr. "

Chase, Hezekiah, Lynn.
Clap, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston.
Clapp, John C.

*Cobb, Richard,
Cobb, Jacob, Abington.

*Codman, Charles R. Boston.
Codman, Mrs. Catharine, "
Coolidge, Joseph,
Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca,
Cushman, Geo. H., N. Bridgew'r.

Brown, Joseph, Groton.

Dana, Samuel, Boston.
Davis, Alvah M., Haverhill.
Dix, Mrs. Elijah, Boston.
Dodge, Rev. John, Harvard.
Dodge, Mrs. Ann S. "
Dorr, John, Boston.
Dow, Josiah, "
*Dowse, Edward, Dedham.

Eager, William, Boston. Eastburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, "Eaton, Eben, Framingham. Eaton, William J., Westboro'.

*Eliot, Samuel, Boston. Eliot, Samuel A. " Elwell, Robert, "

Fearing, Albert, Boston.
Ford, Rev. George, Groton.
Ford, Thomas A., N. Bridgew'r.
Ford, Mrs. Eliza C. "
Fosdick, Samuel W., Groton.
Fosdick, Miss Mary, "
Francis, Ebenezer, Boston.

Gale, Rev. Wakefield, Rockport. Gale, Mrs. Wakefield, "Gale, Justin Edwards, ""Gibbs, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Gordon, Solomon J. "Gordon, Mrs. Rebecca, "Gott, J. R., Georgetown. Gray, Francis C., Boston. Gray, Henry, "Gray, Horace, "Gray, John C. "Green, J. S. Copley, ""Grew, John, "

*Hammatt, Mrs. Mary, Boston.
Hawes, Cynthia, Wrentham.
Hawkes, Miss Lydia E., S. ReadHayward, Elias, Braintree. [ing.
Heard, John, Ipswich.
Higginson, Stephen, Jr., Boston.
Hildreth, Mrs. Mary R., Groton.
Hill, Henry, Boston.
*Holmes, Rev. Abiel, Cambridge.
Holmes, Miss E. A., Andover.
*How, James, Boston.
*Howe, John, "
Hovey, George O. "
*Hyslop, David, "

Jackson, James, Boston. Jackson, Patrick T. " Johnson, Mrs. S. W. Farmington, Joy, Mrs. Abigail, Boston. [N. H.

Keep, N. C. Boston.
*Knowles, Rev. James D. "
Knox, Mrs. S., Rock Island, Ill.

*Lawrence, Amos, Boston.
Lawrence, Mrs. M. A., Groton.
Leach, Simeon, N. Bridgewater.
Locke, Ephraim, Boston.
Lowell, Rev. Charles, "
Lyman, Rev. George, Sutton.

Marston, William, Boston.

*McKean, William, "

*McLean, Mrs. Ann, "

Means, Mrs. John O., Medway.

Mills, Rev. C. L., N. Bridgew'r.

Mills, Mrs. Rebecca B. "

Mixter, Mrs. Fanny L., Boston.

Mixter, Mrs. Mary R., Hardwick.

Mixter, Mrs. S. E., Rock Isl., Ill.

Nason, Rev. Elias, Natick.
*Newell, Montgomery, Boston.
Norcross, Josiah, S. Reading.
Nurse, Daniel, West Medway.
Noyes, Alva, N. Bridgewater.

Palmer, Rev. Stephen, Needham. *Parker, John, Boston. Parker, Mrs. Sarah, " *Parkman, Rev. Francis, 46 *Parkman, Samuel, Parkman, Mrs. Sarah, 66 *Parsons, Gorham, *Parsons, William, Partridge, Joseph, Holliston. *Perkins, James, Boston. *Perkins, James, Jr. *Perkins, Thomas H. Peters, Edward D. Phillips, Mrs Sally,

*Phillips, William, Boston.
Pierpont, Rev. John, "
*Prescott, William, "
Prince, Rev. J. M., Georgetown.

Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth E., Boston.
Rice, Mrs. Henry A. "
Rich, Rev. A. B., Beverly.
Richardson, Benj. P., Boston.
Ritchie, Andrew, Jr. "
*Robbins, Edward H. "
Rockwood, John, Groton.
Robinson, H. W., N. Bridgewater.
*Rogers, Rev. Wm. M., Boston.

*Salisbury, Samuel, Boston.
Sargent, L. M. "
Selfridge, Thomas O. "
Shaw, Mrs. Hannah, "
*Sigourney, Andrew, "
Sigourney, Henry, "
*Smith, Samuel, "

Tappan, John, Boston.

*Walley, Samuel H., Boston. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. Ward, Artemas, Boston. Welch, John, Weld, James, Wendell, Mrs. Catharine, " Whitcomb, Reuben, Harvard. Whitcomb, Reuben, Jr. Whitcomb, Mrs. Abby F. " Whitcomb, Mrs. Louisa D. " Whitcomb, Miss Mary M. *White, James, Boston. 66 Wigglesworth, Thomas, Wild, Daniel, u Winthrop, Robert C. " " *Winthrop, Thomas L. Woodbury, Simon J., Sutton. Worthington, William, Boston.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

Receipts from May 1, 1853, to May 1, 1854.

DONATIONS.

	DONATIONS.			
Annual	Subscriptions of Members,	• •	\$ 782	00
	SUFFOLK COUNTY.			
Boston.	Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street, .		\$ 129	37
44	" Rev. Dr. Blagden, Old South, .		107	39
64	Rev. Mr. Clark, East Boston, .		47	72
66	" Rev. Mr. Dexter, Pine Street, .		21	83
4	" Rev. Mr. Kirk, Mount Vernon, .		$23\dot{4}$	19
44	Rev. Mr. Richards, Winter Street,		148	80
44	" Rev. Mr. Stone, Park Street, .		143	02
44	" Rev. Dr. Waterbury, Bowdoin Street,		90	00
44	M. E. Church, North Russell Street,		17	52
44	M. E. Church, East Bennington Street, .		8	02
46	Hedding M. E. Church,		10	00
44	Episcopal Mission for Seamen,	•	5	00
44	Mr. James M. Whiton, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		30	00
66	Mrs. Henry A. Rice, (1 L. M.)		30	00
66	Mrs. J. H. Wilson, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		30	00
. "	Mr. Luke K. Bowers, (2 L. M.)		40	00
66	William R. Lawrence, (A. B. S.)		150	00
66	George Smith, 2,00; Mrs. McLoud, 1,00, .		3	00
66	A Friend, 10,00; do. 5,00; do. 5,00,		20	00
44	A Friend, 3,00; do. 3,00; do. 3,00,		9	00
Chelses	, Broadway Cong. Church and Society,		70	00
44	Mt. Bellingham M. E. Church,		6	50
			\$1,851	 86

ESSEX COUNTY.

ESSEA COUNTI.		
Andover, Rev. Henry B. Holmes, (1 L. M.)	20	00
" Miss Sarah W. Phillips, (1 L. m. in part)	3	00
Beverly, Washington St. Cong. Church and Soc., (2 L. M.)	40	00
Boxford, Society of Rev. Mr. Coggin,	25	00
Danvers, Society of Rev. Mr. Fletcher,	16	00
Georgetown, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	5 8	65
Gloucester, Thank-offering of a Mother,	10	00
Hamilton, Congregational Church and Society,	25	05
Haverhill, Society of Rev. Mr. Lewis, 2; Mr. Moses Welch, 1;	3	00
" Centre Cong. Church and Society, (3 L. M. A. B. S.) .	109	78
" Alfred Kittredge, (2 L. M.)	50	00
Ipswich, South Parish, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	46	00
Lynn, Society of Rev. Dr. Cooke,	159	79
South Street M. E. Sabbath School, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	57	47
Manchester, Society of Rev. Mr. Taylor,	19	50
Marblehead, First Church and Society,	93	00
Methuen, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.).	47	70
" Joseph How, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
Newbury, Byfield, Society of Rev. Mr. Tenney,	12	62
Newburyport, Whitefield Church and Society,	19	22
" Society of Rev. T. D. Fiske, (2 L. M. A. B. S.)	73	90
" Society of Rev. Mr. Campbell, (1 L. M.)	38	13
Rockport, Society of Rev. Mr. Gale, (4 L. M.)	104	00
Rowley, Society of Rev. Mr. Pike, (2 L. M. A. B. S.)	68	15
Salem, Crombie Street Church and Society,	48	37
" Society of Rev. Dr. Emerson,	62	62
Topsfield, Congregational Church and Society,	24	88
Wenham, " "	26	00
West Newbury, West Parish,	7	70
	1,299	48
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.		
Ashby, Orthodox Cong. Ch. and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s. a bal.)	20	00
Cambridge, Harvard Street M. E. Church,		25
Charlestown, Thomas O. Selfridge, Com'd'r U. S. N. (1 L. M.)		00
Winthrop Church and Society,		25
Concord, Union Bible Society, (5 L. M. A. B. S.)	160	
Framingham, Hollis Evangelical Society, (2 L. M.)		25
Groton, Union Orthodox Cong. Church and Society, (4 L. M.)		83
" Mrs. Mary Woodbury, (2 L. M.)		00
Holliston, A Friend, dying bequest,		15
" Society of Rev. Mr. Tucker,		00
" M. E. Church, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		00
Hopkinton, Society of Rev. J. C. Webster,		60
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FRANKLIN COUNTY.

HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY .- James Brewer, 2d, Springfield, Tr.

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Donations, details not reported, . . .

FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY William Elliot, Greenfield,	Tr.	
Ashfield, Gent's Assoc. in Cong. Soc. 13,78-21,00; Ladies, 22,72;		
(1 L. M. A. B. S.)	57	50
Bernardston, Cong. Church and Society, 6,25-8,75,	15	00
Buckland, " " (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	43	23
Charlemont, 1st Church and Society, by Dr. S. Bates, Treas. 5,50;		
Ladies' Assoc'n in do. 10,42; Miss Mary Stearns,		
Boston, 2,00,	17	92
East, Congregational Church and Society,	18	95
" West, Ladies' Benev. Asso. in 1st Cong. Society, .	8	20
Conway, Congregational Church and Society,	84	61
Deerfield, Orthodox Cong. " by Rev. Mr. Ives,	18	00
" South, 1st " " 12,57—1,25, .	13	82
Gill, Orthodox " " by Rev. Mr. Brooks,	6	98
Greenfeld, 2d " " 53,22; W. T. Davis,		
5,00; Orren Ripley, 50c	5 8	72
Hawley, East, Cong. Church and Soc., Rev. H. Seymour, pastor,	16	28
" West, Individual,	3	00
Heath, Cong. Church and Society, 17,37-21,00,	38	37
Leverett, " "	19	56
Montague, 1st " (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	41	36
Northfield, Trinitarian Society,	2	60
Shelburne, Cong. Ch. and Soc., Gent's Asso. 26,76; Ladics, 21,09,	47	85
" William Hanson, 2,00; Individual, 1,00,	3	00
" Falls, Young Ladies in the Academy,		75
Sunderland, Cong. Church and Society, 38,81—1,50,	40	31
Warwick, Trinitarian Society,	7	00

NORFOLK COUNTY. 25 00 Braintree, Society of Rev. Dr. Storrs, (1 L. M.) Union Church and Society, **25 36** 52 52 Dedham, Society of Rev. Dr. Burgess, Dorchester, 2d Cong. Ch. and Soc. 163,00; Miss Jane M. Hamilton, (1 L. M. A. B. S.) 30,00, 193 00 Brookline, Harvard Cong. Church and Society, . 79 23 Foxborough, Cong. Church and Society, (3 L. M. A. B. S.) 90 50 Franklin, 67 50 Medway, Society of Rev. J. O. Means, (1 L. M. A. B. S.) 69 75 Village, Society of Rev. Mr. Sanford, (2 L. M. A. B. S.) 60 00 33 10 2d Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Needham, West, Cong. Church and Society, 16 39 Randolph, First Parish, **32 08** Society of Rev. Mr. Russell, 100 98 Roxbury, Eliot Church, 75,69; Mrs. Charles Bradford, 2,00; 77 69 Weymouth, North, Society of Rev. Mr. Emery, . 20 38 Wrentham, Society of Rev. W. L. Ropes, . 25 10 25 00 Miss Cynthia Hawes, (1 L. M.). **\$**993 58 BRISTOL COUNTY. Fall River, Central Cong. Church and Society, . **\$**80 57 PLYMOUTH COUNTY. PLYMOUTH COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.—J. II. Loud, Esq., Plymouth, Tr. Abington, 1st Cong. Church and Society, . 37 40 64 Jacob Cobb, (1 L. M.) 20 00 East, Society of Rev. Mr. Walker, 14 26 " Harvey Torrey, Esq., (2 L. M.) 60 00 North, Society of Rev. Mr. White, 14 94 8 75 Hingham, Evan. Cong. Church and Society, Hanover. 3 00 " Hanson, 46 2 00 46 *5* 00 Marshfield, Middleborough, Lakeville, Society of Rev. Mr. Chapman, . 13 00 1st Parish, (A. B. S.) **35** 39 66 Four Corners, Cong. Church and Society, . 12 00 North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Society, (8 L. M.) 163 51 Plymouth, Mrs. Gordon, (1 L. M.) 20 00 Society of Rev. Mr. Babcock, 5 79

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BARNSTABLE COUNTY.

BARNSTABLE COUNTY BIBLE SOCIET	r.—Dea.	John	Muni	rve, Bo	ાજાકાં	able, 1	7.
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Harwich, Cong. Ch. and Soc. to circu	ulate the	Bible	in It	aly,	•	17	00
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MISCELLANEO	us D	ON	AT	ION	S.		
Bennington, N. II., Mrs. Deborah W	hittemor	е, .	•	•	•	5	00
Conway, N. H., Mrs. Betsey Dougla			B. 5.)	•	•	30	00
Derry, N. H., Nehemiah Choate, (1	L. M. A. E	s. s.)	•	•	•	30	00
Farmington, N. H., William F. John	son, (1 1.	. м.)	•	•	•	20	00
Henniker, N. H., Cong. Ch. and Soci	ety, (A. 1	s. s.)	18,12	; Lad	ies'		
Benev. Asso. 37,00, (1 L. M. A.	в. в.)	•	•	•	•	55	12
Nashua, N. H., Timothy Whittemore	е, (2 L. м	. A. P	. s.)	•	•	60	00
Plainfield, Ct., Cong. Church and So	cicty, .	•	•	•	•	22	41
Rochester, Ill., Juvenile Society, 15,	00; Sabl	oath S	Schoo	l Clas	s of		
Miss E. Rogers, 1,00,		•	•	•	•	16	00
Thetford, Vt., 1st Cong. Church and	Soc., (2	L. M.	A. B.	s. bal.) .	50	00
Scarsport, Me., Mrs. Mary Ann Blan	chard, .	•	•	•	•	2	00
"Erro Mainensis,"	• •	•	•	•	•	5	00
						\$295	53
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LEGACY.

Medway, Ms., Mrs. Elizabeth Baxter, by Jos. L. Richardson, Ex'r. \$70 00

ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AT.THEIR ANNUAL MEETING,

BOSTON,

MAY 28, 1855, BEING THE XLVI. ANNIVERSARY.

Published by Order of the Trustees.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN, 42 CONGRESS STREET.

1855.

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OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY FOR 1855-6.

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Officers of the Society from 1809 to 1855.

		
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ANNUAL REPORT.

In presenting the record of another year, we recognize, at the outset, the good Providence that has spared the lives of the officers of this Society, and of so many of its members and patrons. Some, who rest from their labors, have left gratifying evidence both of their high estimate of the Scriptures, and of their confidence in this instrumentality for their circulation.

There have been issued from the depository, during the year, 15,651 Bibles, and 29,157 Testaments; making a total of 44,808. Of these, 43,227 were in the English, and 1,581 in various foreign languages.

The gratuitous issues have been 2,975 Bibles, and 3,351 Testaments; making a total of 6,326 Bibles and Testaments. Of these, 5,732 were in the English, and 594 in foreign languages.

They have been appropriated as follows:—To seamen, 2,149; to city missions, 1,055; to Sabbath and other schools, 694; to public institutions and public houses, 426; to destitute families and individuals in Massachusetts, 1,492; and the re-

maining 510, abroad. The total issues of the year exceed those of the previous year by 9,283.

The income of the Society for the year ending April 30, has been \$21,204 57; of which were from donations, legacies, and annual subscriptions, \$9,544 04; from sales, \$10,611 18; returned for books granted, \$27 85; from interest and dividends, \$1,021 50. The amount in the treasury at commencement of the year, was \$2,127 55; making the total available means, \$23,332 12.

The expenditures during the year have been as follows:—For Bibles and Testaments, \$14,670 99; donations to the American Bible Society, \$3,610; rent, insurance, water-tax, and repairs, \$178 75; wrapping paper, twine and stationery, \$53 03; printing and advertising, \$48,80; freight and postage, \$152 86; fuel and incidental expenses, \$26 85; printing annual report, \$78 78; commissions for collecting annual subscriptions, \$58; services of J. Hood, agent, \$247; salary of general agent, depository agent, and assistant, \$2,320; traveling expenses of general agent, \$262 04; opening chapel, \$4; total, \$21,711 10;—leaving a balance in the treasury for future use, of \$1,621 02.

The total receipts are about the same as those of the previous year, though the contributions from the churches have considerably diminished.

The Recording Secretary and General Agent, Rev. D. BUTLER, has visited the cities and towns of the Commonwealth as heretofore, presenting the cause where he has had access, and endeavoring to excite an increased interest both in the possession and the distribution of the sacred volume.

The fact, that so large a proportion of our pecuniary means comes from the congregations which he is privileged to visit, renders us more than ever desirous that similar, or at least equally effective measures, be resorted to, throughout the churches and denominations which are represented on the platform, and in the councils of this Society.

In accordance with intimations in our last report, agents have been employed—Mr. Hood in Plymouth County, and Mr. Twombly in Essex North—to visit every family within their respective limits, and ascertain, and, so far as may be, to supply, either by sale or gift, every case of destitution.

Mr. Hood reports that he has, thus far, visited 4,572 families, of which 317 were without a Bible, 200 of these being foreign; 160 had imperfect copies, and 130 refused to receive. The number of Bibles gratuitously furnished was 253, and of Testaments, 225. His sales amounted to 704 Bibles and 1,342 Testaments. "Copies," says the Agent, "were found, old, torn, dirty, or out of binding, whole books gone, and, in some instances, the leaves shuffled together and tied with a string, like a bundle. Their owners were, some in middle life, some younger, but many sixty and seventy and eighty years old and upward. Those that were able and willing, paid for their Bibles, in whole or in part; to others they were given."

Mr. Twombly reports the whole number of fami-

lies visited by him at 4,259; families destitute, 807; Irish families, 728, of which latter 16 already had Protestant Bibles; Protestant families supplied gratuitously, 83; of Irish, 173; amount of sales, \$335 87; of gifts, \$109 54. Most of the Irish families who refused the Bible assigned no other reasons than, "Our clergy would not like it;" "Our Bible is the first Bible and the best Bible;" "Our religion is the first and the true religion." Many of the Roman Catholic families, who received the Bible, manifested much joy when it was presented to them.

We confidently hope and expect that this systematic visitation and distribution will continue, till not a family in the State, willing to possess the sacred volume, is destitute of it.

Our sales would unquestionably be greater, had we a more spacious and accessible depository. The National Society,—thanks to the liberality of its friends,—is provided with an edifice all that could be desired, and without abstracting a dollar from its ordinary resources. The loan which was necessary, in addition to the munificent contributions, will very soon be paid out of the rent of rooms not needed by the Society. Shall not our own equally urgent, but far more limited wants, receive an equally hearty and spontaneous response from this community?

To supply Massachusetts however, important as is the undertaking, cannot be the measure of our responsibilities. The gospel, and the book that

contains it, are for the world. "He that believeth shall be saved," and "How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard?" Wide as has been and is the destitution, it may cheer us to remember that upwards of forty millions of Bibles and Testaments have already been distributed to meet it. As new doors open, they are entered. Under an overruling Providence, civil dissension and political revolution are proving pioneers and auxiliaries in this cause.

The British and Foreign Bible Society, during its late jubilee year, resolved to furnish, with the least practicable delay, one million copies of the Chinese New Testament for distribution in that empire. The separate and distinct funds proposed and raised, for that and kindred objects, "including," says the Report, "the willing offerings of old and young, rich and poor, from the Queen upon the throne to the Sunday school child, as also from people of every color and of every rank, in foreign countries, and in distant lands," already exceed \$500,000.

War itself has become a herald of the Prince of Peace. Among the vast materiel and enginery poured weekly into the Crimea from Western Europe, is not forgotten "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." At a late Bible meeting at Constantinople, the British Ambassador, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, who presided, reminded the assembly, that it was "when Napoleon was near the zenith of his day, and England was at



war with almost every nation of Europe, that the thought was first conceived of sending the Bible to every country of the world."

In the ancient centre of that oriental metropolis, "fronting one of the largest edifices, may be read a sign in five different languages, proclaiming to every passer-by that the Bible is here publicly sold to all. A neat room within is filled with Bibles and religious books in sixteen different languages, ready to be scattered throughout the East."

The agent of our own National Society, armed with his pass from Lord Raglan, amid the cannonade of beseigers and beseiged, has visited the camps around Sebastopol, entered the tents, sat with the soldier in the trench, bent over the suffering and dying, gained admittance to the prisoners; his knapsack his unfailing attendant, its treasures opened and explored and dispensed, amid weeping eyes, and out-stretched hands, and hearts too full to give adequate expression to their gratitude.

Evidently prophecy is advancing towards its fulfillment. He whose right it is shall reign. The stone cut out of the mountain without hands is to fill the world. The least of all seeds is strengthening into the tree, that shall strike deep its roots and spread wide its branches, till the nations lodge under the shadow of it.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Forty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the Bible Society of Massachusetts was held in the upper vestry of the Central Church, Boston, on Monday, May 28, 1855. The Report of the Treasurer was read and accepted. The Annual Report of the Executive Committee was presented by the Chairman, and the reading thereof postponed to the public meeting. Rev. Mr. Richards presented the Report of the Trustees upon the disposal to be made of the Phillips and Blackman Legacies now loaned to the American Bible Society, which subject had been referred to them at the last Annual Meeting. The Report was, in substance, that by the terms of the several bequests the principal must, in each case, be retained as a permanent fund; and the interest only of the same appropriated to the objects of this Society.

On motion of Samuel May, Esq., the following vote was passed:

Whereas our present accommodations for the deposit and distribution of the Bible, though centrally situated, are wholly inadequate to the wants of the Society, requiring applicants to climb up to a second story, often difficult to the aged and feeble; holding our position, too, as we do, as tenants at will, and liable to be removed at short notice,—

Voted, That the Trustees be requested to procure, as early as may be practicable, a suitable Building or House for our permanent occupancy, whence the calls upon us may be supplied more conveniently to applicants, and our operations be more distinctly brought into public view.

The Officers for the ensuing year were elected.

The members of the Society then proceeded to the church,

where the public services of the Anniversary were held. The Scriptures were read and prayer offered by Rev. Joseph C. Stiles, D. D., of New Haven, Ct. The President, Hon. Richard Fletcher, then addressed the assembly as follows:

The members of the Massachusetts Bible Society, on this their forty-sixth anniversary, have renewed occasion for gratitude for the blessings of the past year. Sustained by a kind Providence, and encouraged by tokens of public favor, the Society has been busy in its appropriate field of duty, casting its bread upon the waters. We meet to-day under circumstances highly auspicious, and our meeting is favored with the presence of eminent gentlemen, who are here kindly to lend us their aid, and to encourage us on our way. Though our anniversary brings with it no announcement of new and startling events, yet there are great and enduring truths connected with the work in which we are engaged, which lose none of their interest by the lapse of time.

The business of this Society is simply the distribution of the Bible. The object it seeks to accomplish is, to put into every hand, and bring under every eye within the sphere of its operations, the sacred Scriptures. It distributes this venerated Book as alone the standard of faith and practice, and the authentic record of the doctrines and duties of the religion we profess. Careful and laborious research has given us assurance, that amidst the revolutions, changes and perils of ages, the Bible has come down to us, with its primitive purity and integrity in no essential degree impaired. Its history, from age to age, in the tumults and conflicts of the world, the rise and fall of nations, and the shifting scenes of human affairs, has been marked by many striking and impressive events. Originating among an obscure people, some portions of it of greater antiquity than any other writings which have come down to us, it is now steadily making its way to every portion of the globe, and seems destined ere long to be read in every language, and by every people in the earth. It claims for itself a divine origin; it promulgates a pure and elevated and noble morality; it exhibits a perfect pattern of moral excellence; it teaches man his relation to his

Maker and to his fellow man, and his duties growing out of those relations. It comes to us associated with the memories of good and holy men in every age. Multitudes have clung to it with a reverence and affection which no terrors and no tortures could overcome. Multitudes have shown the strength of their faith in it, and their love for it, by the cheerful sacrifice of their lives.

About half a century ago, the attention of men in Great Britain and on this side of the Atlantic was directed to the fact of the scarcity of copies of the Bible. There were then four millions of copies for the thousand millions of inhabitants of the world. Since that time the number of copies has been increased more than tenfold. There are now some fifty millions of copies, rendered into about one hundred and fifty different languages and dialects; so that the Christian Scriptures can now be read in the language of perhaps three-fourths of the inhabitants of the earth.

The last fifty years have presented no grander spectacle than the vast operations of the various organizations and agencies for the publication and distribution of the Bible. The Bible House and the Bible Warehouse of the British and Foreign Bible Society form a nobler exhibition than the Crystal Palace and the World's Fair. That Society's field of distribution is the world. Our own more limited and appropriate field is our own Commonwealth.

Just one hundred years before the settlement of Massachusetts, Mexico was settled by some of the noblest spirits of Spain in her best days. Their objects of pursuit were wealth and fame and power. That country has many natural advantages much superior to our own; but it has not enjoyed the distribution of the Bible. What now is the condition of Mexico? The Puritan settlers of Massachusetts brought the Bible with them in the Mayflower. That was the object dearest to their hearts. They sought not gold, not fame, not power, but a home where they could live and worship according to the teachings of that book, and die reposing on its hopes and promises. The Bible was their counsellor and guide, at all times and in all things, and they left it as a rich legacy to their children. What now is the

condition of Massachusetts? Our civil and religious liberty, our free schools, our noble charities, our happy civil, social, literary, moral and religious institutions, all, all come from the Bible. Surely, in this favored State there should be no one destitute of that book. This should be emphatically and eminently the land of the Bible. To this end this Society is doing what it can. Something of its doings the last year will appear by the Report which will now be read.

The Annual Report of the Executive Committee was read by its Chairman, Rev. George Richards. The Report was accepted, and ordered to be printed.

The President then introduced Rev. T. F. R. MERCEIN, of New York, who spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT:—The Resolution which, with your permission, I would submit this afternoon, is as follows:

Resolved, That beneath the long delay of the universal diffusion of the Bible, we see lines of preparation now converging to its speedy consummation.

The chemist who attempts to calculate the result of introducing various elements into the human system, from experiments made in the marble mortar or the crystal tube, is rebuked for his oversight of a principle which he cannot introduce into his laboratory—the principle of life, holding in abeyance laws seemingly as absolute as any nature has decreed. The Christian who grounds his expectations of the success of moral causes and his faith in the divine purpose, upon what appears to be the natural and legitimate result of such attributes and such instrumentalities as are introduced into this world's history, will find that he is mistaken; that there are hidden principles at work in the heart of man, a strange perversity—in the divine economy, a strange reverence for human freedom, and a shrinking from overriding or ignoring any secondary contingencies. Viewed apart from this consideration, God's purposes and agencies have met continual failure. Nearly twenty centuries of opportunity have slowly rolled away since Jesus declared, "All

power is given unto me, in heaven and on earth;" and not onetwentieth of the earth's population have yet owned his power, or received his gospel. But looking back with reference to these principles of administration, we find no longer a weak or a capricious delay, but a gradual and unavoidable preparation for the final and rapid evolution of the perfected church.

Here, and to-day, we may indeed take it as an axiom, that divine Revelation, entire, but alone in its entireness—read, or declared by hearts that have felt its power—is the only medium of the world's recovery. It is well to look back over the ages of delay, and see how the long tuition of eighteen centuries has barely sufficed to demonstrate it to the world—once for all.

For, simple as a once learned truth appears, it is only by personal experience of the fallacy of any error, that individuals or communities are firmly grounded in that truth. There were two great errors in regard to the Word of God, into which the church was liable to fall, and two alone—one, the error that adds to the Word; the other, the error that takes away. Or to generalize from another point of view, the first danger is from the attempt to correct the Revelation by the aid of the practical wisdom of man; the second, from an endeavor to correct it by his speculative wisdom—one deserting the Bible through expediency, the other through false philosophy. The one, in type, is Romanism; the other, Rationalism.

Now, whenever a divine revelation is communicated for the first time, one of these two perversions is sure to occur. If the truth as it is in Jesus were to-day entrusted to any tribe on earth, a few centuries would witness the development of these alternatives, rapid and striking in proportion to the vigor of the national mind. It was so with primitive Christianity. It could not keep its faith in simple revelation. It sought to attach the traditions and superstitions of the masses to its creed; it invented unsanctioned pageantry to captivate the senses; for a momentary purpose, it suspended the everlasting moral law. God gave twelve centuries for the full exhibition of the mystery of that iniquity, and the horrified church drew back in terror from the abyss. Turning from the law and the testimony to a mere human sagacity, the infatuated church had withdrawn the

Bible from priest as well as people, and the muffled tones of truth could hardly be distinguished through the multiplying folds that bandaged her lips. Then the full fruits of that error were tested—in government, despotism; in society, licentiousness; in morals, perjury; and in religion, blasphemy—until not a tie that bound man to God, or man to man, but it was boldly cut in sunder, or frayed by continued rasping until it yielded at the slightest touch. The Reformation of the sixteenth century was the reaction from the folly of human additions to the word of God.

But still another danger awaited an untried church—the trial of its faith in the conflict of reason—the speculative reason with revelation. And herein lies the danger especially of any age, cultivated and reacting from the old superstitions. things mark a distinction between the early conflicts of reason and faith, and the modern warfare, in that the later philosophy had itself grown up amid Christian institutions, and therefore brought no opposition except the abstract and spontaneous objection; and in that our modern philosophy is reduced to a more scientific and exhaustive form, and thus has brought to bear its highest and completed forces of elimination and expurgation. Well; God has given us the experiment, as yet more briefly, but equally significant. The error is too deadly, and the world too far advanced in perceptive power, to need so long a trial as of the former error. This scheme has found that the expurgated gospel has lost its holy energies. It has found that however lightly many a seeming myth or ornate addition has floated from the brow and around the form of Revelation, yet, when these are shorn away, their theory goes out to rouse itself to the conflictand is like any other fable. And the church has seen, and does see it, that in all this inevitable drifting away into mere natural religion, there is utter weakness—a weakness that dares not go out boldly into the ancient forms of error and degradation, and reap the harvest; but gleaning along the path of the Bible, gathers its feeble sheaves, and breaks the half-cut stalks already cleft by an ignored system. This new philosophy may—let it be conceded—it may polish the rough-hewn statue: it has no spellto call it from its native rock.

Now, it has ever been God's method to discipline a section of his people into a great truth, and through them to give it to the entire world. Thus the Hebrew nation learned its lessons even for us. And so the Christianity of the past, like the Jewish tribes, passed into a bitter captivity, that it might come forth, scarred and bruised and humbled, but chastened out of fatal The church comes out from captivity under the mystical Babylon, with a lesson burned into her very soul. THE BIBLE ALONE AND ENTIRE, is her motto—its laws inflexible, its agencies adequate in any crisis. Until the church had gained this wisdom, any extension of her domain or of the Bible, was only to multiply the area of error and discipline, and slow tuition. It was useless; for before a pure Bible, heathenism yields more rapidly than a corrupted church. Look back, then, along the ages, and tell me when, until this nineteenth century, has the church been prepared to stand, shrinking from the abyss of traditionalism on the one hand, and from the profound of rationalism on the other—looking with like distrust on the clumsy incrustations with which one error blunts her weapon, and the attenuated feebleness into which the other files it down; waiting for any foe, leaning on the naked sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God! That long tuition will save every continent and every after age the error and the correction.

I shall not dwell upon the preparation for the multiplication of the Bible by the press, because it is not until these two great prejudices against the simple Word are met, that its diffusion could result in a pure and growing Christianity. But you will observe further, that however abundantly the store of sacred volumes might accumulate, and however the church may be prepared to save the incoming nations from her own bitter experiences of error, yet one more precaution is demanded before they can be expected, amid increasing culture, to receive the Bible at all. That precaution is the removal of every external objection to the genuineness and authenticity of this message from the Almighty. Just in proportion to the intellectual activity with which it has filled the age, will be the severity of the criticism with which its claims shall be tested. A jealous scrutiny of the credentials of an ambassador from Jehovah, is but a

tribute of respect to the King of kings himself; and it were natural to presume, that before the general proclamation to the human race, God would permit its scrutiny by a court of inquiry on which the world might rely, and from which it might receive a complete digest of every cavil and every argument. it not been thus? Has not a century of laborious investigation in the great academy of modern learning attested both the reliability of the word and the providence of God? The work was one of anticipation, for a period not yet arrived, of general knowledge and questioning and independent thought. As yet the world lay dormant. The latent power of steam was hid beneath the silver stream or the blue ocean; the fiery touch of science had not yet evoked its form of misty grandeur, that, like the genii of Arabian tales, with its single hand lifted the weight of labor that was crushing nine-tenths of the human race into barbarism. The lightning had not yet come to man like a meek seraph, folding its wings of flame, and waiting to do his bidding;—as yet it was at play, leaping its zigzag path from peak to peak among the alpine summits of the distant cloudland. Yet the Providence that foresaw the crisis, prepared the trial which should prove his work. The Bible itself created a criticism and learning for its own purgation from impeachment. Like the confessors beneath Assyrian persecution, these sacred books could never bend the knee before the huge image of worldly policy and sensual wisdom, and a furnace heated seven times hotter than it was wont was kindled to receive them. The furious blaze scorched and wilted the very mighty men who bore the unresisting victims to their trial; a hundred exulting theories attested the consuming energy of the flame thus kindled. Yet the long suspense is over; and as, from time to time, those books come forth, upon their bodies the fire has no power, neither has the smell of fire passed upon them, and the dazzled eye of skepticism itself begins to confess among them the majestic presence of Eternal Truth. Henceforth, as each new region wakes to the inquiry and the doubt, the entire problem and its solution can be given them at once.

With its external credentials thus attested—with its authority as an abiding and sole rule of faith and practice thus secured—

the present stands out as the fullness of times, when the Word of God may be safely and finally given to all nations.

I shall only linger to show how, parallel with these preparations of the Truth for its final mission, a line of providences has prepared the world for its reception. Summing up, in one sentence, the concentration of power, of commercial ascendency, and of general intelligence into the hands of Bible nations; and that general failure of all old idolatries, leaving a vacuum into which the gospel may flow resistlessly; I refer to one single fact in the intellectual position of the Eastern world, which seems like a railway laid down by Providence for the rapid progress of his truth. The two populous and civilized empires but lately opened to our ministry, however they are behind us in 'political and social life, in accurate learning or mechanic invention, have yet one great generic gift in common,—the general habit of reading, and a reverence for mental activity. national mind so prepared, and holding a natural preponderance over the entire continent, the well-applied power of Christianity can thrill with an almost instantaneous vibration. It is not so Its sparse population, which can easily be penewith Africa. trated and surrounded in detail, needs not the precaution. may pour a stream upon a heap of sand, and it will but moisten a few outer particles, and roll off into waste; but let that sandheap be once saturated with a liquid, and a drop of any tincture at any point will be felt throughout the whole; and if continued, will soon color and characterize the entire mass. If the dense masses of the Celestial Empire and of the Great Britain of the Pacific, were not already penetrated with intelligence, and accustomed to reading and thought, the truth could not in ages penetrate the dry and unconnected heap of humanity; but as God's providence has arranged it, this hour, which witnesses the long preparations of centuries complete in the full emancipation of the Word of God, finds the long reserved empires of the East trained to meet and welcome its first heraldry of salvation.

Such, Mr. President, are the views which remove the depression which might otherwise weigh us down in view of the long delay—which give us assurance that even the latest victories of the church are but earnests of the future. The church is but

just learning the weight and temper of the weapons she bears; and as'her faith grows, her blows will be stronger and more eventful. She stands like Moses upon Horeb before God, when his faith trembled and his courage failed. And God said, "What is that in thine hand? and he said, A rod. And he said, Cast it down; and it became a serpent: and he put forth his hand, and it became a rod again. And God said, Put thy hand into thy bosom; and it became white as snow: and he put it in again, and it turned again as his other flesh." So the two great labors of the church—the transformation of the native vileness of humanity, and the reviving of the nominal and decaying Christianities—have been amply sealed unto her by two grand events which betoken all the future. The Islands of the Pacific, which lay like a venomous serpent in her onward path—these have become a rod of strength as her hand has touched them; and in the powerful agitations of the Byzantine world, she feels the thrill of returning vitality through the long withered arm. will go down from this Horeb, and lead up the world into the golden age.

Hon. T. D. Elliot, of New Bedford, was then introduced, and spoke substantially as follows:

Mr. President:—In addressing you upon the important question, which this anniversary of your association presents for renewed discussion, I cannot but express surprise that I yielded, incautiously it may be and without sufficient consideration, to the kind invitation of a personal friend to appear before you this evening. The subject of the Bible, of its free distribution, of the especial demand upon us, whose lines have fallen in these pleasant places, to see to it that our work is well and faithfully performed, is one of so much interest, addressing itself to us so forcibly at this time, as citizens who love our country, as men who love our brethren, as Christians who are not ashamed to acknowledge our dependence upon God, that I draw back from its discussion with an oppressive sense of my inadequacy to the proper discharge of the duty I have assumed. Yet I am here in answer to your call because I believed that no man should hesitate, by his presence

and by his voice, to commend the work in which you are engaged.

It is now forty-five years, as you have stated, since your association was organized. In 1810, your charter from our legislature was procured. And, as you have said, the simple and sole object which its founders had in view was the distribution of the Word of God, without note and without diminution, so that those who could not otherwise obtain it should be provided with the Bible. Your field of labor, by your articles of association, was "Massachusetts and elsewhere." Massachusetts first—but "elsewhere" also! The lapse of forty-five years has reduced Massachusetts, but the "elsewhere," as applied to our own country, has been widely enlarged.

Massachusetts then comprised an area of about forty-four thousand square miles. At this time her extent is less than eight thousand. Our brethren of Maine have the rest. But purchase and annexation and acquisition have enlarged the borders of our country until now forty-one States and Territories compose the Union. How faithfully your labors in our Commonwealth have been performed, each one of us can attest who has seen throughout the State the copies of the Book which have been left by your Society in the home and the hotel. No public house, where it will be received, is without it. But many homes are yet destitute of it, as we learn from the Report just now submitted.

Sir, no one can state too strongly the importance of the work you have in charge. While the Book is translated and sent into foreign lands, we cannot forget that this is a charity which should begin and should be zealously prosecuted at home. We hear eloquent descriptions of missionary effort. Large sums of money have been expended. Noble men and women, martyrs in their day and to their cause, have devoted themselves to the work, and proofs are not wanting of their success. They have left homes of comfort and friends and the sympathy of Christian civilization for the wild abodes of unfriendly men in heathen lands. They have taken up the cross and borne it over the waters that it might, with the blessing of the Father, be developed through personal danger and suffering and reproach and death, into the crown of everlasting life.

But there is, we cannot fail to remember, a duty in this behalf that lies nearer to us at home. The Bible, if it is wanted any where, is wanted here; not so much translation into foreign tongues as editions in our own. And until our home wants are supplied, and the Bible placed in the hand of every man who can read its pages, we have not fairly entitled ourselves to extend the work beyond our borders.

But why should we exert ourselves to circulate this Book. we cannot answer this question at once and satisfactorily, let the work cease. Yet an answer is found in every heart. Every experience can supply it. The inner life of the present time renders it, and the history of the whole past confirms it. the earliest record we have of man's existence upon earth, in some form, to some extent, the Word of God has been the guide of life. When the children of Israel were led from their bondage, under the Pharaohs, by their patriarch prophet, from beneath the brow of Sinai and from out the burning bush the Word of God was spoken. When the old burial-place was re-occupied and the valley of Mamre regained and the lands again divided and the tribes organized and the homes assigned, where the sons of the giants had lived, the ark of the covenant was put within the Holy Place and the Word of the Lord obeyed. By prophets and by holy men that Word was declared and defended.

The Lord is one God. He is a jealous God. That is to say, he will not permit, without displeasure, the worship of the creature to be turned from the Creator. And when led astray by the idols of that wild land, the race of the chosen, not yet reclaimed from that degradation which centuries of bondage had effected, bowed down to the worship of the gold and the hewn stone and the image of wood and the beast and the reptile of the desert, and forgot the worship of their God who had led them out from their taskmasters of Egypt,—the stern decree of their offended Father, who was their just Judge also, was at once recorded, and the hand of the oppressor was strengthened and the brightness of the glory of Israel was eclipsed. And prophets and holy men continued to reveal the Word of God. * * As years advanced and generations passed away and wealth increased and the arts of civilized life had subdued the desert

and converted into gardens the barren places, public corruption invoked attack and the divided empire became the provinces of the Cæsars. The bondage of Israel was renewed; not the serf-like and servile slavery of Egypt, but the scarcely less degrading, because the more refined servitude, of a people tributary to the worshipers in the temples of Jupiter and at the shrines of Bacchus.

In the fullness of time another chance was offered, another day dawned, another prophet was born. The "Word became flesh and dwelt among men." Over the manger the star stood, and the old men bowed down to the worship of the Child of Bethle-The state of public morals, when Joseph took hem. the young child and went into Egypt, should be familiar to us all. Wealth had enervated the public heart. Religion was a The temple was a place of trade. Then the Child was born and the prophecies began to be fulfilled. he came to man's estate it began to be apparent that the hand of God had rested upon him. The boy of twelve years was more than the bearded men within the temple. "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" It was the Father's business then to reveal the Word, as it is our Father's business now to extend it.

What words and what a life they were! Consider when they were spoken and where they were said; but especially consider what those words were. To the Jews they were a stumbling-block; to the Greeks they were foolishness. The Jews looked for a king. Crushed out as the spirit of liberty was in their land, they looked for nothing and thought of nothing but a deliverance from their bondage. To conquer Rome, to prostrate the Cæsars, this was their dream and their hope. But when his first words fell upon the ear of the multitude, how amazed and lost in disappointment they stood. * * Blessed are the meek. Blessed are the merciful. Blessed are the peacemakers. Blessed are the pure in heart and the poor in spirit! These were not Jewish beatitudes. Those words fell not on the Jewish heart as the fulfillment of the prophecies.

And that life he lived among them. What a miracle it was. How boldly he spoke. How fearlessly he rebuked sin. How he

went among the priests who sought his life, and in the temple and in the synagogues. How he rebuked the hypocrisy of the Pharisee and was not afraid to eat with publicans and sinners. How he looked through appearances upon realities. How it was the heart he analyzed and not the act. It is not strange he did not live. Who could attack national sins as he did and live. It is strange he lived so long. Three or four years he taught. Eighteen hundred years attest the blessings of his brief ministry.

This Life, this Word, you seek to distribute among your brethren.

Within the covers of this small volume what marvels live! What eloquence, what poetry, what wonderful revelations from God to man! For many thousand years this Word has lived. The records of great men we have. Their doings and their high lessons we know. But what deeds of uninspired men compare with those there described? What lessons equal those there taught? Do you look for poetry? The inspired minstrel, who strung his harp to sing of heroes among men; the old blind bard, prophetic and godlike as he was; the men of modern days, who have drawn from heaven the power of their verse, grow dim and pale before the solemn inspiration of David and Isaiah. Would you seek words of wisdom? Go not beyond the Bible. Would you find consolation in the hour of sorrow? David suffered and sang, and after him the Man of sorrows forgave and died.

A recent writer, addressing the higher classes in England, urged upon them the study of the Bible as the book containing the highest rules for the government of society. He called it the statesman's manual. If that be true, it should be placed in the hands of every youth within our land. Tell me where are the statesmen of America who will direct her policy a quarter of a century hence. Where will you find the future Governors and Judges and Presidents? 'No boy is so humble and no station is so high that the boy and the station may not meet.' * * But the Bible is more than the statesman's manual. It is the parent's manual. It is the book of the home.

We live in a wonderful land, at a time which no prophet has foretold. When your association was formed in 1810, there were in the Union 25 States and Territories. In 1855, there are

41. In 1810, the area of the United States was 1,720,259 square miles. Now, it is 2,936,166. It is ten times as large as Great Britain and France combined. It is three times as large as Great Britain, France, Austria, Prussia, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Holland and Denmark. The population of the United States in 1810 was 7,239,814. In 1855, on the 1st of January, it was not less than 26,500,000!

Thus empires have been added to our Union. No man's imagination can adequately grasp the great reality. State after State is formed, and immense regions of territory are organized which baffle altogether our power of language. But one thing is certain. As cities are founded, and states spring up, and governments are formed, the city, and the state, and the government, must rest upon the Bible, or they are founded upon the But to reach the state, they must be placed within the Take care of the home, and the state is safe. home. And that charge involves a work of high responsibility. With the tide of immigration the grosser forms of infidelity are cast upon our land and demoralize the heart of the young.

The dissemination of the Bible is a duty, because the state rests upon it, and the home is formed by it. Especially has this nation been made what it is by the Bible. This is true of us as it is true of no other people. From the character of our institutions, the greatest power must be the power of public opinion. The laws are made by it, and those who administer them are raised to office by force of it. The danger in our country is not so much from bad religion as There is danger from the first. from no religion. But the greatest danger is from no religion at all. We are an active and a material people. Our children leave their homes to seek and to establish new homes among strange men and in wild lands. They have their way to make. The rude work of life is before them. The battle of life is to be fought. In the multitude of affairs they forget their God. See to it, my friends, that your work is done. Shall we be a people with the Bible? Go on with your work. You will find friends. You will not be left alone. The aid of good men will be given, and the blessing of God will rest upon it.

Rev. Andrew L. Stone of Boston, in making the closing address, spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT:—It is a very cheering fact to hear, from the Report of the Executive Committee, that this Society alone, and within the limits of this Commonwealth, have distributed during the year some forty thousand copies of the sacred Scriptures.

But now suppose, Sir, that some caviler should rise in this assembly and ask you for evidence as to the number of Bible readers secured by this operation. He has followed, in fancy only, the footsteps of your agents, as they have crossed these thousands of thresholds—has seen them leave their sacred deposit within, and retire shutting the door behind them, and entering the record of their proceeding upon their tablets; and he wishes to know what becomes of the book—what it does there—what its after story is. If there were no answer for this doubting inquirer, our work would soon halt—all the fervors of this enterprise, kindled anew in scenes like this, would suffer a deadly chill.

Well, Sir, it might be replied that we have at least discharged our responsibility. The light of life, given us to bear into all dark places, we have insphered within so many dark homes. The bread of heaven, intrusted to our stewardship for the famishing, we have borne to their door, and set upon their board. We have struck by their hearth-stone a fountain of living waters, of which the thirsting may, if they will, drink till the wells within them spring up into everlasting life. Our work is done. The dwellers there may still walk blindfold; the starving may stand aloof from the feast; the parched and weary soul may still hew for itself broken cisterns. We cannot constrain the study of the word; we cannot bend unwilling eyes upon the sacred page; we cannot break the silence that slumbers within those clasped covers. But our duty, as God's stewards of so precious a trust, is performed. This is something.

But that book has there a power, even in its silence. It may be laid idly upon the shelf. The dust may gather upon it. No and may handle it. Evening and morning may pass over it,

without waking, with their rising or setting suns, one strain of its celestial music. Still, there is in it a presence that moves and awes the spirit; there floats around it a fragrance which fills the place. Busy eyes glance across its lettered title, "Holy Bible." Listless eyes rest upon that lettering, "Huly Bible." Drooping and weary eyes gaze dreamily upon it. Bright and pleasure-loving eyes pause on those shining words. Young eyes of childhood spell them out. Impious eyes are fixed upon them, as by the force of a charm. The sight of the book brings the thought of God—the mightiest, most controlling thought beneath which the creature can keep his footing. The book is God's symbol and representative there. Just as the one guarded tree stood in Eden, the flag-staff and banner of Jehovah, the ensign of his royalty not to be violated—just as the Sabbath, lifting its higher dome amid the days of the week, takes in God and the eternities, asserts God's protectorate on earth—the book in that home is a memorial of God. Unread, it yet speaks for God. The shadow of a crown is on it. Dim rays of the divine glory stream from it. The sweet perfumes of the divine goodness hang about it. The old artists painted a halo about the head of the virgin mother of Jesus. Such a coronal of light invests the silent, unopened Bible.

But we need not fall back upon such indications as these. Let it be granted that the book isn't read to-day, nor to-morrow, nor for many a to-morrow beyond. It bides its time. It has long patience. It can wait. It doesn't lose freshness, like yesterday's newspaper, or last year's almanac.

There comes a day, by and by, when the self-sufficient man, for whom earth was bright enough and durable enough, who had riches and honors in abundance, topples over from the apex of the sand-heap, and rolls quite to the bottom. His gilded Dagon is prostrate in the dust, and he can't set him up again. He struggles hard; but he's in the mire, and all his efforts do but sink him deeper. He rallies his best manhood, but his new ventures all go against him. The domestic ties are tugging at his heart—the wants of dependent ones plead with him. He is their sole human providence; he must not despair; or if he do, it must be to strike again in the strength of despair. But adver-

sity is too strong for him. From some long, fruitless search for employment, that has led him up and down the streets of trade and the wharves of commerce, he comes in at nightfall, footsore, heart-sore, hopeless. No need to tell his wife and children that he has sought again in vain. They know that before he speaks. They heard it in the dull echo of his step outside the portal. They see it in the gloom of his face as he comes in. Some of you will understand this sort of experience. It isn't a fancy sketch at all.

And now the waiting book there solicits a look from him, and wins it. He looks again. Can't we get comfort there? May there not be a word in season there for this his utmost strait? The book invites him; and the clasps part to his touch. The leaves flutter open. He reads, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal." How he sighs for the secure, the heavenly treasure! And he reads on, "He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him." And he bends his knee before this shrine of refuge, and prays. And rising, he reads again, "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." And so the eclipse of his earthly hopes, the darkening of day, bring out above him the stars. Is it little the Bible does for that man? And this isn't fanciful; it is actual, historic.

And in another of these homes, where the patient book has waited its hour, comes a day of sickness. The head of the household wrestles with the fever, and finds his foeman mightier than he is. The bands of the flesh part, strand after strand, and loosen about him. Dimly before his eyes the solemn portal of eternity comes into view, and opens. Behind, guilt; before, dread. Alone, he must depart. Bring the book, the only lamp that flames on that dark journey. In health, he could do without it. The lights of earth were bright enough for earth. He must have other light for this unknown way; and faltering lips read out for him the triumphing utterance of the kingly bard,

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me" "Thy rod and thy staff," he repeats with hollow but eager voice, "these are what I want."

Go back to their home with that sable-vested group just leaving the place of burial. How silent and vacant the house seems to them! It is only some little form taken away, not missed, from the stage of the great world, or the circles of joyance; but leaving there such wide, empty spaces. No more there the coming of those bounding feet—no more the carroling of that young voice, clear and sweet as the lark's morning music—not even, as yesterday, the dear care of the little sufferer. Strangely solitary are the familiar rooms. And yet not quite deserted. The book is there waiting for them. It has kept its post against this hour. It gives mute invitation to its wealth of comfort. And they read, "Whom the Lord loveth, he chasteneth." The deep springs are touched. Through dim eyes they read on-"Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth." Softly the warm rain is falling. "He maketh sore, and bindeth up; he woundeth, and his hands make whole." There is now a longer pause; and then, with bowed heads, they repeat again after the Scripture, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." The Book has sped at last on its gracious errand.

So, in all these homes, God's providence waits upon the mission of his word. The hour is sometimes long and slow a-coming; but it chimes at last. Only let not the book be wanting, and the hand that wrote it will lead the disconsolate and weary to its fountain of refreshing. The traveler, in the solitudes of a great city, a stranger in a strange place, will lift it from the table of his hotel-chamber. The sailor will turn it up from the depths of his sea-chest, in some dull calm of the mid-voyage, or after the storm. The soldier, on the eve of perilous battle, will spell out a chapter by the light of camp-fires. The far-off miner, in a fit of home-sickness, will strike here within his tent, veinings of richer ore than the gold that seams his mountain quartz. The prisoner, from his sad day of compelled toil, locked into his cell, with yet a half hour of fading daylight streaming through

the granite rift, will set down his evening meal untasted, that he may master a page or two of the book, before the shadows hide it. The portionless widow will bless the bounty that gives her back her best comforter. The neglected orphan in his dreary attic, will snatch a moment, by his dying taper's ray, to make sure that the words are still there—"When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up."

Give the book. It will speak its message in due time. God will watch for it. The ministry of angels keeps it in custody. The great day alone can tell its victories and display its trophies.

This, Sir, is one answer to the objector. It ought to satisfy him. It does inspire us.

After the usual Doxology and the Benediction, the meeting was dissolved.

CONSTITUTION.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

SEC. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Brown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

- SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal, which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.
- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.

Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

BY-LAWS.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

ARTICLE I.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice President, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice President and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository,—each of said Committees to consist of three persons.

ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository annually, four copies of the Common Bible, or the value thereof, (1,00,) in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

BY VIRTUE OF A CONTRIBUTION OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

*Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. *Appleton, Samuel, Boston. Appleton, William, " Atwood, John W., Chatham. Alden, Almira C., Fozbero'. Bartlett, Thomas, Besten. Bayley, Robert, Newburyport. Beecher, Rev. William H., Rosding. Blanchard, Miss Frances C., Groton. Bodwell, Rev. J. C., Framingham. *Bond, George Boston. Bowers, Luke K. Bowers, Mrs. Cara H. Brackett, James, Quincy. Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgelown. Brant, Aaron, South Reading. *Bromfield, Elizabeth, Beston. *Brooks, Peter C. Brooks, Peter C. Brown, Joseph, Groton. Bulkley, Mrs. Catharine F. " Butler, Mrs. Jane D. Carpenter, Catharine K., Fozbero'. Carpenter, Daniel, Chase, Hezekiah, Lynn. Child, Miss Lucy, Thetford, Vt. Clap, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Clapp, John C. "Clark, James G., Andover. Clark, John L., " Clark, Jonathan, Winchester.
Clark, Oliver R. "
Clark, Miss Nelly, Sherbern.
Clary, Mrs. S. S., Thetford, Vt.
*Cobb, Richard, Boston. Cubb, Jacob, Abington.

*Codman, Charles R., Beston. Codman, Mrs. Catharine, " Coolidge, Joseph, Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca, Cushman, Goorge H., North Bridgewater. Cutter, Stephen, Winchester. Cutter, Stephen H. Damon, Albert P., Reading. Dana, Samuel, Boston. Davis, Alvah M., Haverkill. Dix, Mrs. Elijah, Boston. Dodge, Rev. John, Harvard. Dodge, Mrs. Ann S. Dodge, Mrs. J. M. C., Andever. Dorr, John, Boston. Dow, Josiah, *Dowse, Edward, Dedham. Eager, William, Be Boston. Eastburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, " Eaton, Eben, Framingkam. Eaton, William J., Westbore'. *Eliot, Samuel, Boston. Eliot, Samuel A. " Elwell, Robert,

Farnsworth, Mrs. Abel, Greton. Fay, Cyrus, Westbore'.
Fearing, Albert, Beston.
Ford, Rev. George, Greton. Ford, Thomas A., North Bridgewater. Ford, Mrs. Eliza C. Foedick, Samuel W., Greten. Foedick, Miss Mary, Francis, Ebenezer, Besten. Gale, Rev. Wakefield, Rockport. Gale, Mrs. Wakefield, Gale, Justin Edwards, Garrette, Rev. Edmund Y., Feziere'. *Gibbs, Mrs. Mary, Besten. Gordon, Selomon J. Gordon, Mrs. Rebecca, Gott, J. R., Georgetown. Gray, Francis C., Boston. Gray, Henry, Gray, Horace, Gray, John C. Green, J. S. Copley, " *Grew, John,

*Hammatt, Mrs. Mary, Beston.

Hammond, Rev. William B., Braintree. Hammond, Mrs. Louise M. "Hardwick, Thomas, Quincy.
Hawes, Cynthia, Wrentham.
Hawkes, Miss Lydia E., South Reading. Hayward, Elias, Braintres. Heard, John, Ipswick. Higginson, Stephen, Jr., Boston. Hildreth, Mrs. Mary R., Greton. *Hill, Henry, Boston. *Holmes, Rev. Abiel, Cambridge. Holmes, Miss E. A., Andover. Hooker, George B., Sherborn. *How, James, *Bosto*n Howard, Cary, North Bridgewater. *Howe, John, Boston. Hovey, George O. *Hyslop, David, Jackson, James, 66 Jackson, Patrick T. " Johnson, Mrs. Emma E., Bradford. Johnson, Mrs. S. W., Farmington, N. H. Joy, Mrs. Abigail, Beston. Keep, N. C. Kerr, James K., Fozboro'. *Knowles, Rev. James D., Beston. Knox, Mrs. S., Rock Island, Ill. *Lawrence, Amos, Boston. Lawrence, Asa, Groton. Lawrence, Mrs. M. A. Leach, Simeon, North Bridgewater. Lefavour, Issacher, Beverly. Locke, Ephraim, Boston. Lowell, Rev. Charles, "Lyman, Rev. George, Sutton. Marsh, E. J., Groton.

Marston, William, Boston. *McKean, William, *McLean, Mrs. Ann, " Means, Rev. John O., Medway. Means, Mrs. John O. Mills, Rev. C. L., North Bridgewater. Mills, Mrs. Rebecca B. Mixter, Mrs. Fanny L., Boston. Mixter, Mrs. Mary R., Hardwick. Mixter, Mrs. S. E., Rock Island, Ill. Morse, Charles N., Fozboro'. Nason, Rev. Elias, Natick *Newell, Montgomery, Boston. Norcross, Josiah, South Reading. Noyes, Alva, North Bridgewater. Nurse, Daniel, West Medway. Ordway, Aaron L.. New York city. Packard, Rev. D. Temple, N. Bridgewater. Palmer, Rev. Stephen, Needkam. *Parker, John. Boston. Parker, Mrs. Sarah, " Parkman, Rev. Francis, " *Parkman, Samuel, " Parkman, Mrs. Sarah, 66 *Parsons, Gorham, *Parsons, William, Partridge, Joseph, Hellisten. Patrick, Rev. Henry J., Bedford. Perkins, James, Boston. *Perkins, James, Jr.
*Perkins, Thomas H. Peters, Edward D. Phillips, Mrs. Sally, *Phillips, William, Pickard, Rev. Daniel W., Groveland. Pierpont, Rev. John, Medford. Pond, Almira W., South Malden. Pond, John P., Beston. Porter, Samuel S., Winchester. Pratt, Cornelius, North Bridgewater. Pratt, Galen *Prescott, William, Boston. Prince, Rev. J. M., Georgetown. Prince, Mrs. Sarah B. Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth, Lawrence. Rice, Mrs. Henry A. Rich, Rev. A. B., Beverly. Richardson, Benjamin P., Boston. Richardson, Luther, Winchester.

Richardson, Sumner, Winchester. Ritchie, Andrew, Jr, Boston. *Robbins, Edward H. Rockwood, John, Groten.
Robinson, H. W., North Bridgewater.
*Rogers, Rev. William M., Besten. Sawtell, Ephraim, Greton. *Salisbury, Samuel, Beston. Sargent, L. M. Selfridge, Thomas O. " 66 Shaw, Mrs. Hannah, Sheldon, Rev. Luther, Townsend. Sheldon, Mrs. Sarah H. *Sigourney, Andrew, Beston. Sigourney, Henry, *Smith, Samuel, Stone, Rev. Andrew L. Stone, Mrs. Matilda F. Sumner, Mrs. H. H., Forboro'. Tappan, John, Boston. Teele, Rev. Albert K., Milton. Temple, Mark M., Reading. Thayer, Amasa, Braintres. Thayer, Ira, Thayer, Mrs. Lilla, " Torrey, Miss Elizabeth, South Weymouth. Tuttle, Miss Sarah, Andover. *Walley, Samuel H., Boston. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. Ward, Artemas, Boston. Welch, John, Weld, James, Wendell, Mrs. Catharine, " Whitcomb, Reuben, Herverd, Whitcomb, Reuben, Jr. Whiteomb, Mrs. Abby F. Whitcomb, Mrs. Louisa D. " Whitcomb, Miss Mary M. *White, James, Boston. *Wigglesworth, Thomas, Wild, Daniel, Winthrop, Robert C. *Winthrop, Thomas L. Woodbury, Simon J., Sutton. Worthington, William, Boston. Woods, Samuel H. Wolcott, William, Denvers. Wiley, Mrs. Ann E., South Reading.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

Receipts from May 1, 1854, to May 1, 1855.

DONATIONS. **\$**729 00 Annual Subscription of Members, SUFFOLK COUNTY. Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street, (2 L. M. A. B. S.) \$163 83 66 " 145 25 Rev. Dr. Blagden, Old South, Rev. Mr. Clark, East Boston, 44 86 Rev. Mr. Dexter, Pine Street, 27 33 Rev. Mr. Kirk, Mount Vernon, " 230 00 Rev. Mr. Porter, South Boston, . 49 05 46 Rev. Mr. Richards, Winter Street, **65 00** Rev. Mr. Smith, Shawmut Avenue, 77 54 " Rev. Mr. Stone, Park Street, 140 00 Rev. Dr. Waterbury, Bowdoin Street, 121 51 " Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, (1 L. M.) 20 00 Mrs. Gordon, (1 L. M.) . . . " 20 00 Warren Partridge, (2 L. M. A. B. S.) 60 00 " Ruggles Slack, (1 L. M.) 20 00 Charles L. Andrews, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,) 10 00 " Miss E. G. Bolt's class in Park Street Sabbath school, . 1 31 A friend, 10,00; do. for A. B. S. 10,00; do. 2,00; do. 1,00, 23 00 Chelsea, Broadway Congregational Church and Society, *50* 00 **\$1,268** 68 ESSEX COUNTY. Andover, South Congregational Church and Society, 120 69 Chapel Society, . **53 10** Amesbury and Salisbury, Congregational Church and Society, 15 00 Bradford, Congregational Church and Society, (L. M.) 108 75 Beverly, A friend, (1 L. M.) 20 00 Washington St. Congregational Church and Society, 16 86

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Sherborn, Female Reading and Benev. Soc. (2 L. M. A. B. s. in part,) 50	00
Sudbury, Ladies' Missionary Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.)	30	00
Tewksbury, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	31	24
Townsend, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.) 40	00
Wayland, Congregational Church and Society,	19	06
Winchester, Society of Rev. Mr. Robinson, (7 L. M.).	140	00
Woburn, Congregational Church and Society,	76	78
" Ladies' Charitable Reading Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.) .	30	00
	1,486	25
WORCESTER COUNTY.		
Athol, Society of Rev. J. F. Norton, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	35	52
Barre, Congregational Church and Society,		70
Brookfield, West, Rev. Mr. Byington's Society,		00
Douglas, East, Cong. Church and Soc. for A. B. s. 44,67; 27,00,	71	67
Fitchburg, Religious Charitable Society, (2 L. M. A. B. s.)	81	59
" Methodist Episcopal Church,	5	00
Grafton, Evan. Cong. Church and Society, (2 L. M. A. B. S.)	60	00
Harvard Association,	49	83
Leominster "	24	10
Lunenburg "	16	60
Milford, Congregational Church and Society,	17	15
Millbury, " (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
Northboro', A friend, (1 L. M. A. B. s.)	40	00
" A member of the Evangelical Church, (1 L. M.) .	50	00
Princeton, Society of Rev. Mr. Wickes,	43	00
Shirley Association,	6	00
Southboro', Pilgrim Evangelical Church and Society,	20	28
Upton, Dea. William Fiske, 2,00; Miss Lucy Fiske, 1,00,	8	00
Westboro', Evan. Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.).	132	-
Winchendon, North, Congregational Church and Society, .		00
Whitinsville, " " .	110	00
	\$877	50
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY.		
Amherst, North, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	44	24
Belchertown, Benevolent Association,	70	00 -
Hadley, North, Congregational Church and Society,	27	00
	\$141	24
HAMPDEN COUNTY.		
HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY Mr. James Brewer, 2d, Spring	field, T	} .
Donations, details not reported,	512	
Westfield, Cong. Church, (1 L. D. and 1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,)	134	00
	\$ 646	18

FRANKLIN COUNTY.

	•	TWELVIEL						
FRANKLIN	COUNTY BIB	LE SOCIETY.	—Mr. V	Villiam	Ellio	, Green	nfield, T	r.
Bernardston,	Hon. Henry	W. Cushma	an, (1 L	. M. A.	B. S.)	•	30	00
44	Orthodox So		• •	•	•	•	. 1	50
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Charlemont,	46	66	66	1.11:	Gentl	emen's		
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	regational Ch	urch and So	ociety,	•	•	•	_	80
Leverett,	66	44	46	•	•	•	. 20	80
Montague,	66	44	66	•	•	•	. 34	76
Shelburne,	Ladies' Assoc	iation, 21,3	3; Gent	t.'s do.	19,47	;	. 40	80
Sunderland,	Congregation	al Church	ınd Soci	ety, (1	L, M.	A. B. 8	.) 48	00
Warwick, Tr	rinitarian Soc	iet y , .		•	•	•	. 10	00
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Franklin,		66	44	40	•	•	. 77	30
Medway, Ea	st, 1st	66	66	60	}	•	. 33	69
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Abington, East, Soc. of Rev. H. D	. Walker, 1	bal. (1 1	. M.	A. B. 1	s.)	18	50
Bridgewater, J. M. Seward, (L. M.	in part,)	•	•	•	•	10	00
East Bridgewater, Congregational	Church and	l Societ	y,	•	•	10	00
" and West Bridgewater, Union	Church,	•	•	•	•	9	25
Kingston, Society of Rev. Mr. Pec	kham, .	•	•	•	•	17	62
Lakeville, "Rev. Mr. Chi	_	•	•	•	•	10	50
Marshfield, Congregational Church	•		•	•	•	18	04
Middleboro', 1st parish,		•	•	•	•	32	00
North Bridgewater, Porter Evange	lical Churc	h and S	Societ	γ.	•	41	06
" Congregational			66	•	. м.)	74	89
" Rev. Mr. Hun		•	•		•	26	
Plymouth, Second Congregational	•	d Societ	v.	•			62
Mrs. B. 10,00; Nathan Whitman f				•	•	_	00
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Brownfield, Me., Mrs. Ruth Colby	•	• `	•	•	•	_	00
Derry, N. H., Miss Abby Choate,	•	•			•	30	
" 1st Church and Soc	-				•		00
Henniker, N. H., Cong. Church as					rt,)		37
Saco, Me., Benevolent Society in 1					•	45	
Thetford, Vt., 1st Congregational)	42	
Walpole, N. H., Simeon N. Terry,	=	B. 8.)	•	•	•	170	00
Waterville, Vt., Safford Hopkins,				•	•	5	00
Weathersfield, Vt., A friend, .				•	•		50
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Mrs. J. M. C. Dodge, Ex'rs, .	• •	•	•	•	. \$1	1,000	00
Braintree, Levi Thayer, by A. and		-				100	00
Danvers, Miss Mary Eden, by Wil	•	-		•	•	100	UU
	liam Wolco	ott, Ex'	r,	•	•	200	
Hopkinton, Benjamin Pond, by Be	liam Wolce enjamin Por	ott, Ex'	r, r,	•	•	200 60	
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ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING,

BOSTON,

MAY 26, 1856, BEING THE XLVIL ANNIVERSARY.

Published by Order of the Trustees.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN, 42 CONGRESS STREET.

1856.



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OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY FOR 1856-7.

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																Vice President.
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ANNUAL REPORT.

THE Committee begin with stating what has been accomplished, and end with suggesting what it seems desirable to aim at.

There have been issued from the Depository, during the year, 17,487 Bibles, and 23,543 Testaments; making a total of 41,030. Of these, 39,449 were in the English, and 1,581 in various foreign languages.

The gratuitous issues have been 3,719 Bibles, and 3,193 Testaments; making a total of 6,912.* Of these, 6,224 were in the English, and 688 in foreign languages.

They have been appropriated as follows:—To seamen, 2,336; to Sabbath and other schools, 994; to public institutions and public houses, 887; to city missions, 636; to United States ships and navy yard, 179; to Germans in Boston, 90; to destitute families and individuals in Massachusetts, 1,479; and the remaining 311 abroad.

The income of the Society for the year ending April 30, has been \$24,081 90; of which were

^{*} Exclusive of the gratuitous distribution in Resex North and Plymouth Counties.

from donations, legacies, and annual subscriptions, \$11,824 19; from sales, \$11,260 20; returned for books granted, \$28 26; from interest and dividends, \$969 25. The amount in the Treasury, at the commencement of the year, was \$1,621 02: making the total available means, \$25,702 92.

The expenditures during the year have been in all, \$23,487 41, of which were, for Bibles and Testaments, \$13,913 60; donations to the American Bible Society, \$5,513 34; rent, insurance, and water-tax, \$199 50; wrapping paper, twine, stationery and printing, \$32 45; fuel and incidental expenses, \$44 85; printing annual report, \$71 80; commissions for collecting annual subscriptions, \$56 00; freight and postage, \$158 15; expense of annual meeting, \$15 00; opening chapel, \$4; expense of agency in Boston, \$22 00; salary of general agent, depository agent, and assistant, \$2,500; salary of distributing agent in Essex County North, and expenses, \$667 75; traveling expenses of general agent, \$288 97; invested, \$1,030;—leaving a balance in the treasury of **\$1,185** 51.

The Recording Secretary and General Agent, in his circuit over the Commonwealth, sees gratifying evidence of the strengthening hold of this cause on the hearts of the people. He is more than ever convinced of the importance of systematic efforts on the part of ministers and laymen to circulate the Scriptures in • their respective neighborhoods. With all such efforts he is most happy to co-operate.

Mr. Twombly, our Agent in Essex North, has completed his labors. He reports in the thirteen towns of his district—8,415 families visited; of which 1,011 were Roman Catholics, and 1,172 destitute of the Scriptures: among these he has distributed gratuitously, 1,073 Bibles and Testaments, of the value of \$186 28; and sold 1,874, of the value of \$772 27.

Mr. Hood, our Agent in Plymouth County, reports of the fifteen towns in his district, 8,383 families visited, of which 359 were Irish Roman Catholics; 23 foreign Protestants; 615 were without a Bible; 294 had imperfect copies or of unsuitable print; and 237 refused to receive. He gave away 458 Bibles and 511 Testaments; and sold 1,267 Bibles and 2,172 Testaments.

"The past winter," he adds, "has been very unfavorable for my work. The blocking snows and piercing winds have prevented my getting about except on foot. To find all the houses in Plymouth, Wareham and Carver woods, covering, with here and there a small clearing, an area of some eighty or an hundred square miles, was not a small undertaking; yet I feel confident that every house was visited."

He speaks of an elderly lady, whose husband had not been able to read a chapter in his Bible for seven years, so small was the print; who herself, by the time she had read a verse or two, saw all the letters running together. An elderly man had been without the Scriptures for fourteen years,—

the family Bible having been intrusted to a son, who took it with him on his last voyage, he and the book being lost together. Instances like these illustrate the need, even in our own favored community. It is proposed to enter at once, on a thorough visitation and supply of Middlesex, and to proceed from county to county, till, if possible, no family or individual, has been overlooked. Who will not bid Godspeed to so laudable and hopeful an undertaking?

The Committee have lately issued a Circular, calling attention to the fact, that in the lapse of years the number of members and life members of the Society has materially diminished, and inviting the well-wishers of this good work to add their names to our Records, by the payment of two dollars or upwards annually, or the single payment of twenty dollars. The former subscription entitles to a vote at the meetings of the Society, and the latter secures, in addition, the value of one dollar a year, in Bibles or Testaments. A prompt and energetic movement on the part of a few individuals in each of our churches, in procuring these reinforcements of men and means, would be an essential service rendered to the cause.

We must again express our conviction of the pressing importance of a Bible House. We are paying a very considerable rent, for very inadequate accommodations, in a second story, difficult of access and not our own. Had we a

capacious Sales Room, on the first floor, in a central position, we could enlarge our stock, keep every variety of edition—American and foreign—and at once greatly increase our sales, as well as our gratuitous issues.

Other parts of the building, if the whole of it was ours, could be let at rates, that would leave our own apartments free to us. New York is provided with such an edifice, of the ample dimensions that its operations require, without withdrawing a dollar from its ordinary resources. Must our more moderate, but not less urgent, wants be denied? Will not this Metropolis of commerce and letters and charities and an enlightened Christianity furnish itself with a Depository for God's Word, worthy of the end it is designed to answer, and affording the facilities which the wants of Massachusetts, and New England, and other States beyond, and the world, imperatively demand? The Trustees, in accordance with a vote of the Society, propose in the autumn to bring this matter home to the favorable consideration of those among us, whom a beneficent Providence has blessed with the means and the will to devise liberal things.

Do we not live in a day, when the Bible is increasingly felt to be the want of the world, the charter of all rational liberty, the passport to true and lasting prosperity, the guaranty of our progress and existence as a people? Is not a skeptical distrust of the divinity and authority of this Book

yielding, both in this and in other lands, to a more rational and more philosophical recognition of its credentials? Is not the truest thinker becoming the most unhesitating believer?

Let us accept, for ourselves, this legacy from Heaven, then transmit it to the ignorant and guilty everywhere.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Forty-Seventh Annual Meeting of the BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS was held in the upper vestry of the Central Church, Boston, on Monday, May 26, 1856. The Report of the Treasurer was read and accepted. The Annual Report of the Executive Committee was presented by the Chairman, and the reading thereof postponed to the public meeting.

The Officers for the ensuing year were elected. On motion of Hon. Charles T. Russell,

Voted, That the Trustees be requested to procure, as early as may be practicable, a suitable Building or House for our permanent occupancy, whence calls upon us may be supplied more conveniently to applicants, and our operations be more distinctly brought into public view.

The members of the Society then proceeded to the church, where the public services of the Anniversary were held.

The Scriptures were read and prayer offered, by Rev. Myron Winslow, Missionary at Madras.

The Vice President, Rev. NATHANIEL L. FROTHINGHAM, D. D., then addressed the assembly as follows:

In the absence of the President of the Society, it falls to me to salute you, Christian Friends, on the present Anniversary, and to say a few opening words. This I do the more heartily, and with all heartiness, from my profound appreciation of the cause that has brought us together. It is a great cause; and it is the common cause of us all. How great it is, may seem indi-

cated in some faint degree by the crowded assembly here present. It is shown by the efforts that are every where making, and the vast array of means set in motion, to promote its objects. It is shown more truly in the history of Christendom. It is shown in the whole aspect and religious privileges of our public state. And if the hearts could be opened and laid before us, which the Bible has quickened by its motives, governed by its law, refreshed with its consolations, saved by its hope, created anew by its divine spirit of life,—it would be shown far more wonderfully still.

I have said that this is the common cause of us all. There is nothing denominational or sectarian about it. It is not disturbed by religious controversies. It is not sullied by any of the passions that are apt to grow out of such disputes. We may have different views of the history and composition of the Holy Scriptures. We may interpret differently their language. We may understand differently the exact nature and extent of their inspiration. But there they stand, apart from all other volumes, on a higher plane than any other volume. We agree to pay them homage and reverence; to urge them on the attention of the rich, and to distribute them among the dwellings of the poor; because we know that they are the treasure of those who have little else, and to those who have the most are worth all the rest that they have.

I will not pile up epithets and phrases, to show how important the Bible is in the training of our generations; how powerful it is over the individual mind and conscience; how precious it is to the anxious and sorrowing heart. Such generalities would be wearisome, because they are so familiar, and no one thinks of calling them in question. Here we are all of one opinion. We do not all find the same things in our Bibles. But each finds what he needs;—what is in affinity with the best affections and aspirations of his being;—what comes down from heaven to meet the cravings of his baffled reason and his frail condition here upon the earth. What other agreement can there be like that?

I remember reading, many years ago, on the fly-leaf of an old copy of the Scriptures, these two lines:

[&]quot;Here all persuasions for their doctrines look,
And each man finds his doctrine in this book."

Doubtless they were written a little playfully. I think I discern in them a slight tone of irony; -amiable, but still a little sarcas-They seem to say, that every one sees on the sacred pages not so much what is there as what he has been taught to see, what he is beforehand prepared to see, what he wishes to see. The saying, even if understood in this manner, would not be wholly without truth. But to my thought it suggests a meaning far deeper and nobler. It is this;—that the divine word adapts itself to the diversities of faculty and feeling that exist among men, so that every individual carries away with him the portion that is suited to his special condition. In this respect, it is like the Spirit shed abroad on the day of Pentecost; which was one in itself, but various in its manifestations. It was heard to speak to every man "in the tongue wherein he was born." And so the Bible addresses every man in the native and peculiar dialect of his own soul. This is one of its permanent glories. This alone will be sufficient to keep it from ever losing the hold it has won upon the heart of our common humanity.

It would be easy to follow out this thought, and to illustrate it in various particulars. But it would lead me too far, and keep you too long from the plainer matters of fact which now invite your attention. I ask you to listen to the Annual Report, which will be read by the Chairman of the Executive Committee, the reverend Pastor of this church.

The Annual Report of the Executive Committee was read by its Chairman, Rev. George Richards. The Report was accepted, and ordered to be printed.

Rev. W. S. Studley, of Boston, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the intellectual profit to be derived from the Holy Scriptures, warrants us in making hearty efforts to secure their distribution in every household in this ancient Commonwealth.

This sentiment the speaker carnestly and effectively enforced. His remarks were not furnished for publication.

Rev. Rufus W. Clark, of Boston, was next introduced, who spoke in substance as follows:

Mr. President,

In appearing before you in behalf of the Massachusetts Bible Society, I feel the same embarrassment that I should, were I called to advocate the importance and the benefits of the sunlight. Should I speak of this light as pouring into our habitations, gilding the hill-tops and mountains, painting the flowers and the landscape with beauty, I should simply be telling you what you all know. So with the light of the Sun of Righteousness. Every one can see it, feel its power, appreciate its glory. It shines upon all man's interests, individual, social, political and religious. It blesses him at every point, at which he is willing to be blessed.

There is also great difficulty in describing the Bible. In order to do it, we must traverse every department of knowledge. a history, it goes back over the waste of ages; over the rise, progress and decline of empires; back to the glories of the creation, when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy. As a record of God's providential dealings with the nations, it is full of lessons of wisdom, adapted to all the varied conditions and circumstances of life. Its philosophy is keen, searching, luminous; laying bare the secret operations of the human heart; the groundwork of faith, and the fundamental principles of moral science. Its poetry is beautiful and varied, adapted in delicacy, tenderness and sublimity to the For rhetorical power, themes which it decorates or illustrates. deep pathos and stirring eloquence, it is unsurpassed; and yet, under all these lie the great doctrines, the granite foundationstones of our religious faith and immortal hopes.

The unity that pervades the volume is one of its chief excellences. It is one book, and yet many books. One grand design runs through it; and yet many workmen, in different ages of the world, have been employed upon the structure. The admiration of a traveler in Europe is often excited as he gazes upon a vast, splendid cathedral, which has been for centuries in process of erection, and yet bears the stamp of one skillful architect. We have here a cathedral, a holy temple, that was fifteen hundred years in the process of building. Various wise and good men,

kings, lawgivers, prophets and apostles, wrought upon it. Yet it bears the impress, in all its parts and proportions, of one great Architect. I would take the skeptic to view its exterior, and prove to him that the noble structure rests upon the foundation of prophets and apostles, Christ Jesus being the chief cornerstone. I would conduct him within the walls, and show him, on the tables, the inspired records, luminous with divine truth. I would lead him to the altar, that he might view the sacrifice made for the sins of the world. I would have him turn towards the choir, and hear the beautiful Psalms of David chanted by those whose hearts, as well as voices, were full of the praises of Jehovah. I would have him wait and behold our great High Priest ascend the pulpit, and listen to him who 'spake as man never spake.'

But without dwelling upon these points, I wish specially to direct your attention to the adaptation of the Bible to the American people and American institutions.

And first, free institutions and just laws cannot exist without the Bible. The experiment has been tried in Europe of establishing republicanism without a pure Christianity, and it has utterly failed. The union between the Bible and freedom is inseparable; and for the obvious reason that a free people must be under the controlling influence of moral laws. A community must have the Bible as a standing army. We who are in this church to-day, are not ruled by the government of Massachusetts. Should this government be annihilated to-morrow, we should all be true to an ideal government, growing out of our sense of right and justice. No man here would steal or commit murder, because there was no human law against the crime!

On the other hand, a despotism requires a standing army. The Pope of Rome keeps Bibles out of his dominions, and consequently French troops must come in. Without these forces, his authority would be instantly overthrown.

Our beloved State affords a striking example of a Bible-governed community. The order, industry, intelligence and happiness that prevail here—the provision that is made for the poor and the unfortunate—the mighty moral influences that go forth from our benevolent societies, all show the salutary effects of this precious volume. * * This book is adapted to all

classes in society, from the most gifted and cultivated down to the most illiterate. It contains profound doctrines and deep mysteries, upon which years of investigation may be profitably expended; and also contains truths so plain that he who runneth may read them. Much of the language of Scripture, too, is addressed to individuals. The doctrine of regeneration was unfolded to Nicodemus. The glorious system of spiritual worship was made known to an obscure Samaritan woman. That sublime and cheering announcement, "I am the resurrection and the life," was made to the sister of Lazarus.

Single verses of the Bible contain whole systems of theological truth. Analyze that declaration, "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son," &c., and you will find in it, every truth that is essential to man's salvation. The infinite love of the Father is set forth as the source and basis of all vital religion. The exhibition of this love is made in the gift of his Son. The ground of pardon and acceptance is declared in the words, "Whosoever believeth in him." The next point is the assurance of protection from the penalty of the law, and finally the rich and glorious promise of "everlasting life."

Still the Bible, full as it is of truth, is but a partial revelation. The unrevealed is vastly more than the revealed. How little we know of heaven compared with the reality. All the imagery used of thrones, crowns, kingdoms, feasts, &c., is simply the effort to express what cannot be expressed. A mariner approaching Boston harbor in a dark night may see the beacon-lights, and declare that he sees Boston. But the city, with its streets, houses and churches, is still beyond, out of his view. We gaze upon the stars above us, but we do not see the universe of God. That, in its breadth and glory, is far beyond these signal lights. So of the truths of the Bible. This volume serves as a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. But the realities, joys and glories of the eternal world, eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived of.

In the next place, the Bible is the great engine of reform in our land. There are those, calling themselves reformers, who trample this sacred book under their feet. They imagine that they can accomplish their designs by the force of their own wisdom and exertions. But their cause is suicidal; for no re-

form can prosper that is not conducted in the spirit, and sustained by the principles of the Bible. Equally in fault are those who use the Bible as an obstacle to reform, and pretend to find in its pages an excuse for any of the sins that curse this nation. The first class are like men attempting to cross the Atlantic with a great pressure of sail and no ballast in the ship, and the other class have a sound vessel, an abundance of ballast, but not a single particle of canvas.

We believe that this word of God protests against every form of sin, and is the uncompromising antagonist of every evil that exists among men. And we regard it to be the duty of every minister to bring its truths to bear against the sins of our times. It is not enough to exhibit the wickedness of the antedeluvians, and the hypocrisy of the Scribes and Pharisees, and then allow the present generation of sinners to pass by uncensured. Especially at a period like this, when dangers are thickening around our free institutions, are the watchmen upon the walls of Zion called upon to be faithful and in earnest in the discharge of their duty.

Finally, the Bible will enable us to fulfill our mission among the nations of the earth. Are we not indebted to the influence of this volume for all that we hold dear as a nation; and as we have freely received, shall we not also freely give? Who can estimate the blessed effects of the Bibles that were brought to our shores in the Mayslower. I have often thought that it was very proper, that the noble men who came to these shores to plant the institutions of religion, should first step upon a rock. For that rock, at Plymouth, is an emblem of their firmness. And if they were so faithful to our interests, shall we not be faithful to others? The nations of the earth are ready to receive the Bible. Millions of copies might be scattered in China, in India, Turkey, and among the islands of the sea. We have been informed that converted Mohammedans are distributing the Bible in Turkey, and that the Sultan has manifested a willingness to examine the Scriptures. Let us do our duty, and soon would millions, in other lands, join in the beautiful song that we have just heard sung, and the earth be belted round with the music of grateful hearts,—hearts regenerated by the Spirit of God, and fitted for a nobler and purer service in the regions above.

The closing Address was by the Rev. Andrew P. Peabody, D. D., of Portsmouth, N. H., who with great beauty and impressiveness exhibited the Bible as a miscellany, peculiarly adapted thereby to reach and influence the mind, and in striking analogy with God's methods generally.

After the usual Doxology and the Benediction, the meeting was dissolved.

CONSTITUTION.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christiaus within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

SEC. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Brown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

- SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal, which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.
- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.

Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

BY-LAWS.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

ARTICLE I.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

ARTICLE 11.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice President, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice President and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the. Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository,—each of said Committees to consist of three persons.

ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository annually, four copies of the Common Bible, or the value thereof, (1,00,) in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the current, not for past years.

4

MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

BY VIRTUE OF A CONTRIBUTION OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

Albree, John, Boston. Andrews, Artemas F. Fitchburg. Andrews, C. L. Boston *Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. *Appleton, Samuel, Boston.
Appleton, William, "
Atwood, John W., Chatham. Alden, Almira S. C., Forbore'. Baker, Mrs. Eleanor J. W., Durchester. Burber, Martin, Sherborn Barnard, William F., Marlboro.'
Barnes, William,
Bartlett, Thomas, Boston. Buyley, Robert. Newburyport. Beecher, Rev. William H., Reading. Belknap, Miss Martha M., Framingham. Blanchard, Miss Frances C., Groton. Bodwell, Rev. J. C., Framingham. *Bond, George Bostun. Howers, Luke K. Bowers, Mrs. Cara H. Brackett, James, Quincy. Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgetown. Brant, Anron, South Reading. *Bronifield, Elizabeth, *Boston*. *Brooks, Peter C. Brooks, Peter C. Brown, Joseph, Groton. Bulkley, Mrs. Catharino F. "Butler, Mrs. Jane D. " Carponter, Catharine E., Fozboro'. Carpenter, Daniel, Chase, Hezekiah, Lynn. Child, Miss Lucy, Thetford, Vt. Choate, David, Topsfield. Clap, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Clapp, John C. Clark, James G., Andover. Clark, John L. Clark, Jonathan, Winchester. Clark, Oliver R. Clark, Miss Nelly, Sherborn. Clark, Rev. Rufus W., Boston. Clary, Mrs. S. S., Thetford, Vt. *Cobb, Richard, Boston. Cobb, Jacob, Abington. *Codman, Charles R. Boston. Codman, Mrs. Catharine, " onn, Horace, Wob Coolidge, Joseph, Boston. Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca, Curtis, Abner, East Abington. Cushman, George H., North Bridgewater. Cutter, Stephen, Winckester. Cutter, Stephen H. Damon, Albert P., Reading. Dana, Samuel, Boston. Davis, Alvah M., Haverkill. Davis, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Northboro'. Dix, Mrs. Elijah, Boston. Dodge, Rev. John, Harvard. Dodge, Mrs. Ann S.

Dodge, Mrs. J. M. C., Andover. Dorr, John, Boston. Dow, Josiah, " *Dowse, Edward, Dedkam Eager, William, Eastburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, " Eaton, Eben, Framingkam Euton, Miss Martha W., Fitchburg. Eaton, William, Boston. Eaton, William J., Westboro'. *Eliot, Samuel, Boston. Eliot, Samuel A. " Elwell, Robert, Emery, Mrs. Harriet, North Weymouth. Everett, Edward, Boston. Farnsworth, Mrs. Abel, Groton. Fay, Cyrus, Westboro'. Fearing, Albert, Boston. Fearing, Mrs Albert, " Ford, Rov. George, Groton.
Ford, Thomas A., North Bridgewater.
Ford, Mrs. Eliza C. " Fordick, Charles, Groton. Fordick, Samuel W. Fordick, Miss Mary, Francis, Ebenezer, Boston. Gale, Rev. Wakefield, Rockport. Gale, Mrs. Wakefield, Gale, Justin Edwards, Garrette, Rov. Edmund Y., Fozbore'. Garrette, Mrs. Franzenia W. *Gibbs, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Gordon, Solomon J. Gordon, Mrs. Rebecca, " Gott, J. R., Georgetown. Gray, Francis C., Boston. Grav, Henry, Gray, Horace, Gray, John C. " Green, J. S. Copley, " *Grew, John, *Hammatt, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Hammond, Rev. William B., Braintree. Hammond, Mrs. Louise M. Hardwick, Thomas, Quincy. Hawes, Cynthia, Wrentham. Hawkes, Mas Lydia E., South Reading. Hayward, Elius, Braintree. Headley, Rev. P. C., Sandw Heard, John, Ipswich. Higginson, Stephen, Jr., Boston. Hildreth, Mrs. Mary R., Groton. *Hill, Henry, Boston. Hill, Jotham, Woburn. *Holmes, Rev. Abiel, Cambridge. Holmes, Miss E. A., Andover. Hooker, George B., Sherborn. Hooper, Robert, Boston. Hoppin, Rev. James M., Salem. *How, James, Boston. Howard, Cary, North Bridgewater. How, Frederick, Danvers.

*Howe, John, Boston. Hovey, George O. " Hoyt, Mrs. Muriu, Framingham. Humphrey, Daniel, North Weymouth. *Hyelop, David, Buston. Jackson, James, Jackson, Patrick T. " Jephson, Miss C. R., Brookling. Johnson, Mrs. Emina E., Bradford. Johnson, Mrs. S. W., Farmington, N. H. Joy, Mrs. Abigail, Buston. Keep, N. C. Keith, Azza B., North Bridgewater. Kotth, Charles, Kerr, James K., Fozboro'. Kerr, Jane, Kingman, Miss Sarah, Boston. *Knowles, Rev. James D. " Knox. Mrs. S., Rock Island, Ill. Lamson, Edwin, Boston. *Lawrence, Amos, " Lawrence, Asa, Groton. Lawrence, Mrs. M. A. Lawrence, Mrs. Nancy T., Carlisle. Leach. Simeon, North Bridgescater. Lefavour, Iseacher, Beverly. Leland, Unlyin J., Natick. Leonard, Eliza, Fuzburu'. Leonard, James M., Bridgewater. Locke, Ephraim, Bustun. Lowell, Rev. Charles, Loub, William, Lyman, Rev. Georgo, Sutton. Manning, Edward W., Weburn. Marsh, E. J., Groton. Maraton, William, Boston. *McKean, William, *McLean, Mrs. Ann, " Menne, Rev. John O., Medway. Means, Mrs. John O. Mills, Rov. C. L., North Bridgewater. Mills, Mrs. Rebecca B. Mixter, Mrs. Fanny L., Boston. Mixter, Mrs. Mary R., Hardwick. Mixter, Mrs. B. E., Rock Island, Ill. Moore, Rufus. Groton. Morley, Rev. S. B., Attlebero'. Morse, Charles N., Fuzboro'. Morse, Henry, Natick. Munger, Rev. Theodore T., Dorchester. Murray, Rev. James ()., South Danvers. Nason, Rev. Elins, Natick. *Newell, Montgomery, Boston Nightingule, Rev. Crawford, Groton. Norcross, Jusiah, South Reading. Noyes, Alva, North Bridgewater. Nourse, Daniel, West Medway. Ordway, Aaron I., New York city. Packard, Rev. D. Temple, Campello. Palmer, Rev. Stephen, Needham. *Parker, John, Parker, Mrs. Sarah, " *Parkman, Rev. Francis, *Parkman, Samuel, " Parkman, Mrs. Surah, Parsons, Gorham, " *Parsons, William, Partridge, Joseph, Holliston. Patrick, Rev. Henry J., Bedford. *Perkina, James, Boston. Perkins, James, Jr. *Perking, Thomas H. Peters, Edward D. Phillips, Mrs. Sally, *Phillips, Wil**la**m, Pickard, Rev. Daniel W., Groveland. Pierpont, Rev. John, Medford. Pond, Almira W., South Melden.

Pond, John P., Buston. Porter, Samuel S., Winchester. Pratt, Cornelius, North Weymouth Prutt, Gilen, North Bridgewater. Pratt, Norton, Braintree. *Prescort, William, Baston. Prince, Rev. J. M. Reurgetown. Prince, Mrs Sarah B. Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth, Lawrence. Rico, Mrs. Henry A. Rich, Rev. A. B., Beverly. Richardson, Benjamin P., Boston. Richardson, Luther. Wuckester. Richardson, Summer, Ritchie, Andrew, Jr., Boston. Robbins, Andrew, Groton. *Robbins, Edward H., *Busten.* Rockwood, John, Groton Robinson, H. W., North Bridgewater. *Rogers, Rov. William M., Buston. Sawtell, Ephraim, Groton. *Balisbury, Baniuel, Boston. Surgent, L. M. Scudder, Charles, Selfridge, Thomas O. Phaw, Mrs. Hannah, Sheldon, Rev. Luther, Westbero'. Sheldon, Mrs. Surah H. *Sigourney, Andrew, Boston. Rigourney, Honry, Shiverick, Miss Marin L., N. Bridgewater. Slack, Rugglen, Boston. Smith, Rev. Matson M., Brookline. Smith, Mrs. Matson M. *8mith, Samuel, *Bostom*. Snow, Mrs. Caroline, Northboro'. Stone, Rev. Andrew L. Boston. Stone, Mrs. Matilda F. Sumner, Mrs. H. H., Fozboro'. Tappan, John, *Besten*. Teele, Rev. Albert K., Millon. Temple, Mark M., Reading. Thayer, Amasa, Braintres. Thayer, Ira, Thayer, Mrs. Lilla, Torrey, Miss Elizabeth, South Weymouth. Trask, Mrs. A. H., Manchester. Tucker, Jesse, Milton. Tuttle, Miss Sarah, Andover. Twichell, John M., Fitchburg. Tyler, Jerome W., Boston. Vose, William II , Fitchburg. *Walley, Samuel H., Bosten. Wakefield, Mirs C., Reading. Ward, Artemas, Boston. Welch, John, Weld, James, Wells, Mrs. Martha D., Northboro'. Wendell, Mrs. Catharine, Buston. Whitcomb, Reuben, Hurverd. Whitcomb, Reuben, Jr. Whitcomb, Mrs. Abby F. Whiteomb, Mrs. Louisa D. Whitcomb, Miss Mary M. Boston. *White, James, *Wigglesworth, Thomas, " Wild, Daniel. Winthrop, Robert C. +Wintbrop, Thomas L Weedbury, Simon J., Sutton. Worthington, William, Boston. Wood, Elizabeth C., Foxboro'. Woods, Miss Abbie Wheeler, Askby. Woods, Samuel H., Bester. Wolcott, William, Danvers. Wiley, Mrs. Ann E., South Reading. Wyman, William G., Fitchburg.

DONATIONS.

Receipts from May 1, 1855, to May 1, 1856.

Annual	Subscription of Members,	• (•	\$704	00
	SUFFOLK COUNTY.				
Boston.	Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,		•	\$ 212	43
66	" Rev. Dr. Blagden, Old South,	• .		•	75
66	" Rev. Mr. Clark, East Boston,		. •	66	71
46	" Rev. Dr. Kirk, Mount Vernon,		•	148	67
. 66	" Rev. Mr. Porter, South Boston,		•	63	03
66	Rev. Mr. Richards, Winter Street,		•	90	90
66	" Rev. Mr. Smith, Shawmut Avenue,	, .	•	7 9	00
46	" Rev. Mr. Stone, Park Street, .			168	25
46	" Rev. Dr. Waterbury, Bowdoin Stre	et, .	•	130	00
44	Bromfield Methodist Episcopal Church, (1 L. 1	M. A.	B. S.)	37	74
66	St. Paul's Church, (for A. E. S.)		•	25	00
46	William R. Lawrence,		•	300	00
46	Augustus Lowell, (1 L. D. A. B. S.)	• (150	00
46	James M. Whiton, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		•	30	00
46	Robert Hooper, (1 L. M.)		•	20	00
64	Mrs. Sarah Tuttle, (1 L. M.)		•	20	00
•6	A friend, for A. B. s. 10,00; do. 4,00; do.	for a	. B. S.		
	3,00; do. 1,00; do. 1,00;	•	•	19	00
Chelsea	Mount Bellingham Methodist Episcopal Chur	ch, .	•	6	54
			\$	1,628	02
	ESSEX COUNTY.				
Amesbu	ry and Salisbury, Union Church and Society,	•	•	8	00
46	West, Second Parish.		•	14	25
Ballard	vale, Union Church and Society,		•	5	00
	Washington Street Congregational Church an	d So	ciety,	15	35
Danvers	, Society of Rev. Mr. Murray,		•	52	01
46	" Rev. Mr. Fletcher,		•	16	47
66	Third Congregational Church and Society,	•	•	16	00
Georget	own, Congregational Church and Society,		•	65	00
Glouces	ter, Lanesville Evan. Church and Society, (1 L	. m . i	a part,) 5	00
Grovela	nd, Congregational Church and Society, .		•	26	50
Hamilto	n, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M	ı. in p	ert,)	16	00
Haverhi	ll, Centre Cong. Church and Society, (3 L. M.	L. B. 8	. bal.)	83	00
66	Moses T. Welch,	•	• •	1	00
46	East, Baptist Church,	•	•	4	27

Lynn, Sabbath Gift Society in Rev. Dr. Cooke's Parish,
" Union Street Methodist Episcopal Church,
Methuen, Joseph How, Esq. (1 L. M.)
Newbury, First Parish,
Newbury, Byfield, Society of Rev. Mr. Tenney,
Newburyport, Mrs. Betsey L. Colman, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)
"Belleville, Society of Rev. Mr. Fisk, (2 L. M. A. B. S.)
Rowley, Society of Rev. Mr. Pike, (2 L. M. A. B. S.)
Salem, Crombie Street Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)
"South Congregational Church and Society,
Topsfield, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)
Wenham, Congregational Church and Society,
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*
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.
BIIDDLESEA COUNTI.
Ashby, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.).
Ashland, Congregational Church and Society,
Boxboro', Congregational Church and Society,
Cambridgeport, First Evan. Congregational Church and Society,
Carlisle, A friend, (1 L. M.)
Charlestown, Winthrop Church and Society,
Concord, Union Bible Society, (4 L. M. A. B. s.)
Dunstable, Congregational Church and Society,
Framingham, Hollis Evangelical Church and Society,
Groton, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)
" Union Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,
(2 L. M.) 50,62; Mrs. Mary L. Woodbury, (1 L. M.) 20,00,
Holliston, Congregational Church and Society,
Hopkinton, First Congregational Church and Society,
Littleton, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,
Lowell, Appleton Street Congregational Church and Society, .
" Kirk Street Congregational Church and Society,
Medford, Mystic Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)
Natick, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)
Newton, Eliot Congregational Church and Society, 61,47; Mrs.
Mary Ward, 2,00,
Newton Centre, Young Ladies' Benevolent Society in Rev. Mr.
Furber's congregation,
Pepperell, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, .
Reading, Bethesda Church and Society,
Sherborn, Female Reading Society, (1 L. M. bal.)
Shirley, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,
South Reading, Mrs. Ann E. Wiley, (1 L. M.)
" Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) .
Sudbury, Congregational Church and Society,
Tewksbury, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)
Townsend, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,

Westford, Union Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.) . 3	0	00
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\$ 1,16	9	09
. WORCESTER COUNTY.		
Athol, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A B S.) . 3	0	66
" Chestnut Hill Sewing Circle,		00
_	5	44
Clinton, Congregational Church and Society,	8	00
Fitchburg, Calvinistic Congregational Church and Society, (5 L. M.) 11	4	68
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Holden, James H. Bailey,		00
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Westminster, Mrs. H. H. Kendall,	•	80
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HAMPSHIRE COUNTY.		
, 6 6		25
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		28
Hadley, North, Benevolent Society,	<i>1</i>	00
\$ 15	4	53
HAMPDEN COUNTY.		
HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.—Mr. James Brewer, 2d, Springfield	, .	Tr.
Donations, 1,112,00; less 326,86 credited to Bible account,	5	14
Springfield, First Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. D. A. B s. in part,) 11	0	15
\$ 89	5	29
FRANKLIN COUNTY.		
FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.—Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield,	T7	٠.
Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Gent. Association		
	3	63
Bernardston, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	_	00

Dealised Commentional Church and Contain	0.4	20
Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,		60
Charlemont, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,)	23	00
Deerfield, A. C. Williams,		50
South, First Congregational Church and Society, .		00
" Monument Congregational Church and Society,		00
Gill, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,	7	13
Greenfield, First Congregational Church and Society,	29	60
Second Congregational Church and Society,	59	70
Hawley, East, Dying gift of a friend,	3	02
Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, Gents. Associa-		
tion, 21,60; Ladies' do. 21,45,	43	05
Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	49	00
Mrs. Abigail A. Sanderson, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
Warwick, Trinitarian Society,	10	50
Mrs. Elizabeth S. Pease, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
•		
	\$ 381	73
NORFOLK COUNTY.		
Braintree, Society of Rev. Dr. Storrs,	38	09
" Mrs. Elisha White,		00
Brookline, Harvard Church and Society,		68
Dedham, Society of Rev. Dr. Burgess,		00
Dorchester, A friend, for A. B. S		00
Society of Rev. Mr. Means, 206,92; Mrs. E. J. W.	20	•
Baker, (1 L. M.) 20,00,	226	02
Willage Congregational Church and Society,		00
Foxboro', Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, (11 L. M.)		
Franklin, Congregational Church and Society,	70	
Medfield, Miss Eliza Basteen, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		00
Medway, Village, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	
West, Second Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		13
Milton, First Evangelical Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	•	50
Needham, Nehoyden Hall congregation,		33
West, Congregational Church and Society,		42
Randolph, East, Society of Rev. Mr. Russell,		00
" First Parish,		
•		00
Weymouth, First Congregational Church and Society,		32
110ttli, I fightly Chatch and Society,		00
. Contenus 2 laws (1 Li Ai Ai Bi bi)		00
" South, Society of Rev. Mr. Terry,	10	00
*	1,074	60
BRISTOL COUNTY.		
	14	KO.
Attleboro', Bible Society, 51,00; less 36,48 for Bibles,		<i>5</i> 2
" First Congregational Church and Society,		00
Reston, Collections, (2 L. M. A. B. 8.)	10	10
	\$ 115	62

PLYMOUTH COUNTY.

Abington, North, Society of Rev. Mr. White,	. 12	00
" East, Society of Rev. Mr. Walker,	20	00
" South, Congregational Church and Society,	36	50
Bridgewater, James M. Leonard, (1 L. M. bal.)		00
East and West Bridgewater, Union Cong. Church and Society, .	_	75
Middleboro', Central Congregational Church and Society,		25
" First Congregational Church and Society,	40	00
North Bridgewater, South Congregational Church and Society, .	65	00
" Porter Evan. Cong. Church and Society, .	47	00
Plymouth, Second Congregational Church and Society,	. 7	28
	\$ 262	78
BARNSTABLE COUNTY.		
BARNSTABLE COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY Dea. John Munroe,	Tr.	
Centreville, Congregational Church and Society,		98
Chatham, Congregational Church and Society,		50
	•	
South Dennis, Congregational Church and Society,	79	06
	8 79	54
(Received on Bible account, \$ 148.)	Q 10	U I
(Necesived on Dible account, \$ 140.)		
MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS.		
Kennebunkport, Me., South Cong. Church and Society, (A. B. S.)	16	00
Saco, Me., Benevolent Society in the First Parish,		00
Chester, N. H., Congregational Church and Society, (A. B. S.)		75
Exeter, N. H., Second Cong. Church and Society, (A. B. S.)		23
Henniker, N. H., Congregational Church and Society, (A. B. S.).		85
Lyme, N. H., A friend, (4 L. M. A. B. S.)	120	
Pelham, N. H., John Tyler, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		00
Walpole, N. H., Simeon N. Perry, (A. B. S.)	90	00
Ascutneyville, Vt., A friend,	2	50
Lebanon, Ct., Congregational Church and Society,	17	90
Woodstock, East, Ct., Mrs. Lucy Paine, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
Wethersfield, Ill., Adolphus Chapin,	10	
Fuh-chau, China, Rev. Charles Hartwell, (A. B. S.)		00
A friend, 10,00; do. 4,25; do. 4,00; do. for distributing the		V
	_	0.7
Scriptures in heathen lands, 2,00,	20	25
	\$ 448	48
	•	
LEGACIES.		
Hawkers' Mar Sareh M. Creemen by Deniel Comenter Processes	- 004	00
Foxboro', Mrs. Sarah M. Crossman, by Daniel Carpenter, Executo	•	30
Marlboro', Miss Eliza Williams, by William F. Barnard and Wil-		
liam Barnes, Executors,	100	00
Weymouth, Ansel Pratt, by Samuel Humphrey and Norton		
Pratt, Executors,	3,000	00
		_
	3,304	30

ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING,

BOSTON,

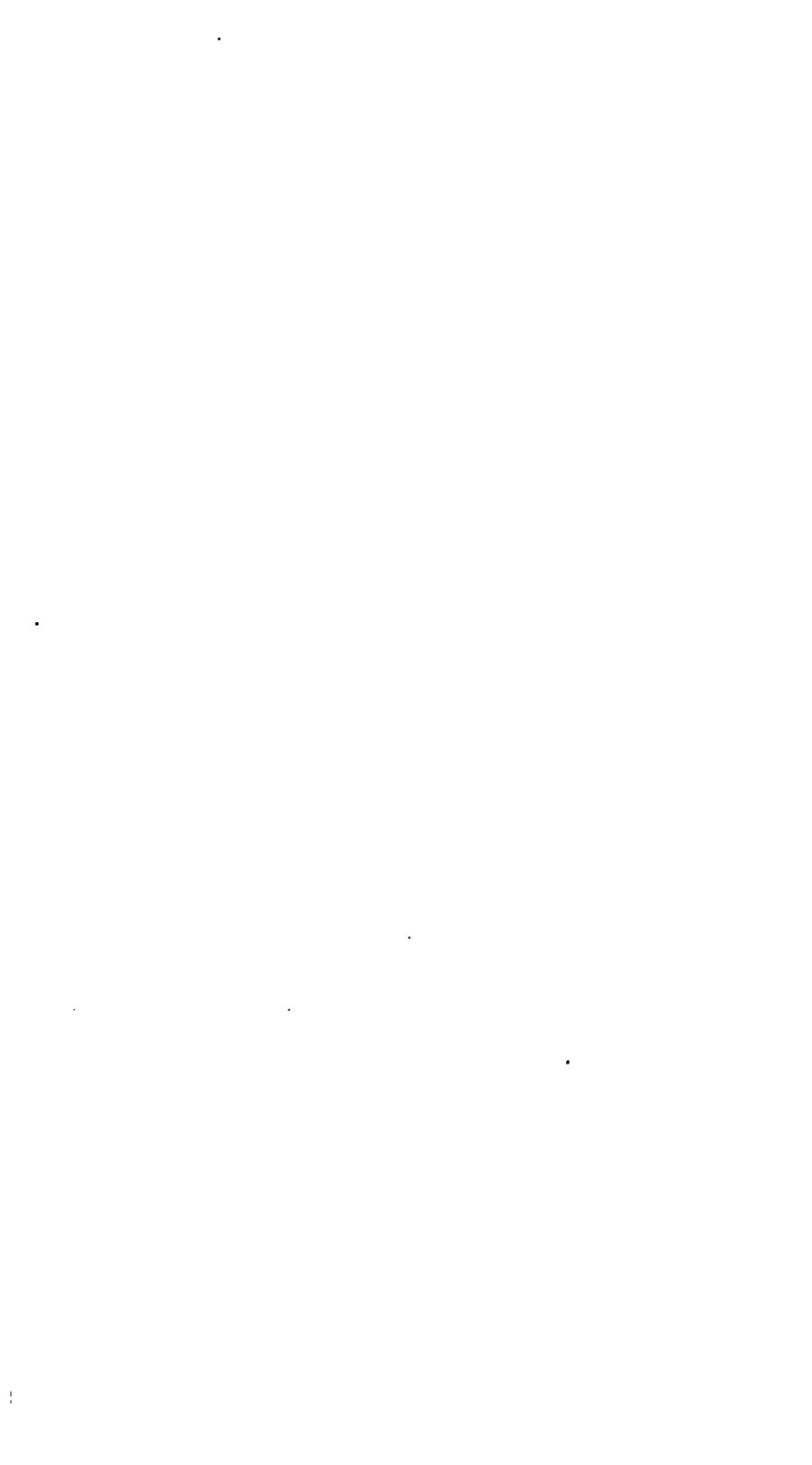
MAY 25, 1857, BEING THE XLVIII. ANNIVERSARY.

Published by Order of the Trustees.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON, 42 CONGRESS STREET.

1857.



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	PRES	3 I D	ENTS.			
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	VICE PI	R E S	SIDENTS.			
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	RECORDING	8]	ECRETARIES.			
	Rev. John Pierce, D. D	10 11 12	Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D. Rev. William M. Rogers, Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D. Rev. George Richards, Rev. Daniel Butler,	1839—44 1844—45 1845—49 1849—53 1853		
	TREA	su	RERS.			
	Samuel H. Walley, Esq 1809—1 Hon. Peter O. Thacher, 1811—1 John Tappan, Esq 1812—3	12	Henry Edwards, Esq George R. Sampson, Esq			
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ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Committee are privileged to report the continued prosperity and increasing activity of our Society. There have been issued from the Depository, during the year, 15,836 Bibles; 24,386 Testaments; 3,841 Testaments with the Psalms; and 1,182 Psalms; making a total of 45,245. Of these, 43,634 were in the English, and 1,611 in various foreign languages; being an increase of 4,000 and upwards over the issues of last year.

The gratuitous issues have been 5,228 Bibles; 6,484 Testaments; 542 Testaments with the Psalms, and 94 Psalms; making a total of 12,348.

They have been appropriated as follows:—To seamen, 3,837; to Sabbath and other schools, 1,332; to city missions, 1,093; to public institutions and public houses, 859; to emigrants to Liberia, 140; to Germans in Boston, 147; to destitute families and individuals in Massachusetts, 3,786; and the remaining 1,154 abroad.

The income of the Society, for the year ending April 30, has been \$22,387 45; of which were from donations, legacy, and annual subscriptions, \$9,061 06; from sales, \$12,234 06; returned for

books granted, \$22 83; from interest and dividends, \$1,069 50. The amount in the Treasury, at the commencement of the year, was \$1,185 51: making the total available means, \$23,572 96.

The expenditures during the year have been, in all, \$22,563 51, of which were, for Bibles and Testaments, \$14,104 60; donations to the American Bible Society, \$3,187 46; rent, insurance, and postage, \$254 42; wrapping paper and twine, \$47 33; stationery, printing, and advertising, \$54 14; fuel, and incidental expenses, \$31 09; freight, \$160 83; annual report, \$52 00; expense of annual meeting and opening the chapel, \$20 00; commissions for collecting annual subscriptions, \$62 00; horse, wagon and harness, for distributing agent, \$\\$147 00; traveling expenses of depository agent, \$\\$15 50; salary of general agent, depository agent, and assistant, \$2,550; salary and expenses of distributing agents in Middlesex and Plymouth Counties, \$1,582 59; traveling expenses of general agent, \$294 55:—leaving a balance in the Treasury of \$1,009 45.

The General Agent of the Society, Rev. Mr. Butler, speaks encouragingly of that sphere of operations of which he has immediate charge. He enjoys, this year, the efficient co-operation of the Rev. Mr. Slafter, of the Episcopal church, who is visiting and making collections among the Parishes of his denomination.

The Committee are proceeding, as fast as suitable agents can be procured, and as the income of the Society warrants, to visit every County in the

Commonwealth, and supply every family destitute of the Scriptures. The completion of the work in Essex North was announced in our last Report.

Mr. Hood, our Agent in Plymouth County, reports as follows:—

"Since the last Anniversary, my labor has been in Duxbury, Marshfield, Hull, Scituate, South Scituate, and Hingham. The deep snows and extreme cold weather of last winter, together with the heavy and long-continued rains that have followed, have much impeded the work; but still an advance has been made. Three thousand families have been visited:—151 were destitute of the Bible, and 141 families either had no Bible they could see to read, the type being too small, or their Bibles were old and torn, and unfit for use. Of these 292 families who were destitute in whole or in part, all have been supplied by sale or by gift, excepting 26 who refused to receive the blessed book.

"The whole number of Bibles circulated thus far is 2,305, and of Testaments 3,708; making, in all, 6,013 copies of Bibles and Testaments.

"The past winter has been one of much religious interest in Plymouth County. How much this interest has been increased by the reading of the Scriptures; or how much that reading has been increased by the use of so many new copies of God's word; or what has been its influence on the minds of those who have studied with care its blessed contents, must all be left to that day when the secrets of all hearts shall be revealed. We

believe God when he says, 'My word shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.'"

Mr. Jacob Hersey, distributing Agent for Middlesex County, reports as follows:—

"I commenced my work June 9, 1856. I have explored 20 towns; visited 10,576 families, of which 2,347 were foreigners, and mostly Roman Catholics, and without the Bible, and generally unwilling to take it even as a gift. In some cases, however, they received the pocket Testament for their children to carry to school. I found 131 American families without a Bible. I have sold 982 Bibles and 1,776 Testaments, and distributed gratuitously among the poor and destitute 334 Bibles and 1,267 Testaments.

"I have been treated kindly, in all the towns, by ministers and people. I found one destitute Christian lady, ninety-four years old. She could read the large-print Psalms very well without glasses, and received a copy very thankfully. I also found another elderly lady, eighty-six years of age. She had not had a copy of the whole Scriptures in her house for twenty years. She showed me a Testament that was very old and badly worn, and so defaced that I could not read a whole chapter, and I asked her if she could. 'O yes,' was her reply. 'If I can only find the place that I want to read, I can read very well, as I have read it so much, I can remember what I cannot find.' She was a

poor widow, and I gave her a Bible that she could read, for which she gave me many thanks."

Efforts have been made, during the year, to increase the number of members and life members; and it is hoped that the return of another anniversary will find our roll materially lengthened.

Especially would the Committee urge on such as have the means and the will to devise and execute liberal things, the importance of a more commodious and accessible depository. As our object is to circulate, as widely as may be, the Word of God, it seems desirable that a large variety of books be always on our shelves, and so arranged and in such locality as to arrest the notice and tempt the eye of the passers-by; while the aged and infirm, without unnecessary fatigue, may examine and select for themselves.

The great cause in which we are engaged we commend to the Christian sympathy and active cooperation of all well wishers of their country and their kind.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Forty-Eighth Annual Meeting of the BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS, was held in the upper vestry of the Central Church, Boston, on Monday, May 25, 1857. The Report of the Treasurer was read and accepted. The Annual Report of the Executive Committee was presented by the Chairman, and the reading thereof postponed to the public meeting.

The Officers of the Society, for the ensuing year, were elected.

The members of the Society then proceeded to the Church, where the public services of the Anniversary were held.

The Scriptures were read, and prayer offered, by Re-Ralph Sanger, of Dover, Mass.

The President, Hon. RICHARD FLETCHER, then addressed the assembly as follows:

The Massachusetts Bible Society, on this their Anniversary, are happy to meet this large assembly. They are cheered and encouraged by your presence, feeling assured that you approve their object, and take an interest in their labors. The immediate field of their duty is our own Commonwealth, and their purpose is to search out and supply the destitute, so that in this favored State there may be no home without a Bible.

In this work they have labored on for eight-and-forty years. During that period, they have been accustomed to come up to this place from year to year, to render an account of their doings and publicly and gratefully to acknowledge the past, and im-

plore the future blessings of Heaven. That the public look with distinguished favor upon efforts to carry the Bible to the needy and destitute, has been clearly shown by the means, which have always been liberally supplied to this Society for the prosecution of their work, and for which they desire now, and at all times, to express their sincere thanks.

The last year has been one of general prosperity to the Society, and they meet to-day with an encouraging prospect of future usefulness before them. But they have not been exempt from bereavements. Since our last meeting a valued member, Deacon William Worthington, has departed this life. He was modest and retiring, but at the meetings of the Society, and of the Board of Trustees, of which he had long been a member, he was constantly in his place. He loved the cause and gave to it his hearty and earnest support. Faithful and conscientious in the discharge of the duties of life, he lived respected and beloved; and now that he is gone, there remains to us the memory of his worth and his virtues.

Though this Society have been so long engaged in their work, their work is not yet accomplished. Much remains to be done. There are yet those who are destitute of the Bible. In our country at large, it is estimated, that more than a million of families are without the Christian Scriptures. The amounts expended, and the efforts made for the publication and distribution of the Bible, form an important and interesting portion of the history of the last half century.

By means of the circulation of this Book, the voice, which was lifted up in the villages of Galilee, is still heard by listening millions, and hundreds of millions, and we trust the time will come when it will be heard by a listening world. He, the narrative of whose short and wonderful life on the earth is contained in the Gospels, travelled from village to village, imparting instruction to the people. The poor were the objects of his especial interest and regard.

He spoke in no splendid and spacious halls. He delivered no elaborate and formal orations to brilliant and applauding assemblies; but, on the side of the mountain, on the shore of the lake, in the streets of the city, and on the steps of the temple, he gave instruction and warning. The themes of his discourse were the most important and impressive. He spoke of man's nature and

destiny, of his relation and duties to his Maker, and to his fellow-man, and of the great realities of a life to come. He spoke as one having authority.

This Book, which we distribute, also speaks as having authority on these great themes. It has maintained its authority over the most enlightened nations, and over the greatest and best men, century after century, to the present day.

From age to age, revolutions and changes in the world, and in the world's affairs, have been continually going on. But amidst these shifting scenes, in every age and in every nation, the teachings of the Bible have been adapted to the condition and the wants of man.

Men at all times, in every condition, the rich and the poor, the high and the low, the learned and the unlearned, the prosperous and the afflicted, the sick and the dying, need the instructions, the consolations, and the hopes of Christianity. That all may have these instructions, consolations and hopes, is the object, which this Society is endeavoring to accomplish. What they have done during the last year will appear by the Report which will now be read.

The Annual Report was read by Rev. GEORGE RICHARDS, Chairman of the Executive Committee. The Report was accepted, and ordered to be printed.

The President then introduced Rev. JACOB M. MANNING, of Boston, who spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT:

In the few words which it is now permitted me to utter, I wish to be direct and practical. The cause for which I am to speak is too sacred, and too thoroughly interwoven with every thing which is dear to man, to be talked about in vague and aimless, though never so glowing, terms. It is no human organization,—neither your church, nor my church, nor the church,—but the Word of the ever-living God, which appeals to you for help to-day. And do not take me as meaning that the Bible asks help in its own behalf; it asks you to co-operate with it in behalf of a needy world. When such a charity knocks at your door, and pleads for your sympathy, it needs no letters of recom-

mendation from man; its own meek, heavenly visage, and the story of what it has already accomplished, are its mightiest argument. To think of opening for it a way to your hearts by the blandishments of speech, were as idle as to think of adorning the sunset or beautifying the flowers.

1. Are you a philanthropist? Then I ask you to consider what the Bible has done for the world. Look backward over the path which it has thus far traveled. That path shines, like a belt of gold, on the surface of history; and all along, rays of light are streaming out from it into the adjacent darkness. every place to which its heavenly beams have not penetrated, we see wretchedness and the habitations of cruelty. No one of the ancient civilizations was of a high order. The Spartan regime concerned itself chiefly with man's bodily powers; its aim was to rear up a nation of warriors and athletes. The Athenian philosophy, in its very best days, did no more than draw out the intellect; it was satisfied with feeding man's rational and poetical wants. In no case was it duly recognized that man is a religious being, and that he cannot find rest save in communion with a personal God. The highest wants of the soul, left as they thus were without their appropriate food, drove man to the practice of idolatry. Self was the pivot on which systems of morality turned; the arts and learning were corrupted and misapplied. In the midst of this moral chaos, there has been but one hope; the Bible has ministered faithfully to man's religious cravings, carrying order, harmony and gladness whithersoever it has gone. Who that has roamed over the moral wastes of history, has not felt his heart beat with an unwonted and joyous pulse, when he has happened to come upon the track of revelation? It is in bright and blessed contrast with what he finds elsewhere. low that stream, which gushes up in the shadow of the pyramids, through all its desert windings, till it is concentrated in the Land of Promise. Watch it amid the various life of the Jews-that disobedient and gainsaying nation. See it embodied, at last, in the person and offices of the Redeemer; and flowing out from him unto all the down-trodden. What beautiful adaptation throughout! God stoops to man, everywhere, as doth the mother to her fallen The blind eye is opened gradually; and the light falls softly upon it. A new chord in man's soul begins to vibrate. A new civilization grows up; based not so much on the physical or intellectual, as on the religious nature of man. Ideas of a supreme Creator, of the nobleness of love, goodness and self-sacrifice, begin to stand out impressively. Minds are quickened; philosophy is enriched; the face of society becomes fresh and heavenly. Where the Bible has been withdrawn, as it was under papal supremacy, man has lost ground; and where it has been brought into contact with the masses, as in Britain by Wickliffe, and on the continent by Luther, there we find activity, happiness and healthful progression. Look at Ireland by the side of Scotland, at Austria by the side of Germany, at Spain by the side of England; they are a sufficient proof that the Bible is our richest gift to the human family.

I know that such statements as these have been assailed in certain quarters. There is a shallow and atheistical philanthropy, making great pretensions just now, which casts aside the Scriptures. In its zeal to destroy the Bible, and to overthrow that church which the Bible upholds, it has forgotten the aim of all true philanthropy. It sits in its easy-chair, self-absorbed and self-satisfied, and claiming for itself such deference as it deems the Bible unworthy of; while that same Bible is going through the world, watering its moral deserts, soothing the pains, the troubles, the griefs of the wretched and the helpless, carrying sympathy and hope to poverty's cold hearth-stone, comforting the broken-hearted, and dropping blessings upon every head. These anti-Biblical theories, for the elevation of mankind, are short-lived and changeful. One generation of them goeth, and another generation cometh, but the word of the Lord standeth forever. The teachings of this only are adapted to the deepest wants of our nature. Man is a hapless orphan without it. Take it away, and you sap the life-blood of our literature. Destroy it, and you make human life a desert and a mystery. Let the fair-mouthed apostles of infidelity write on, and talk on, and mock on; the pedestal of the truth as it is in Jesus can never be moved. The noblest sons of genius will still follow His star, and lay their offering of gold, frankincense and myrrh To Him, in every age and in every clime, will come the oppressed, the suffering, the desolate, the weary and the worn, to pour out their sorrows and find sweet relief.

2. Is it not a real satisfaction to be enlisted in the Bible cause? You are distributing a book as to the truthfulness and

tendencies of which there cannot be a question. God made it what it is, both in form and substance; and it is complete. There is nothing to be added to it, and cursed be he that taketh aught away. No political revolutions, or mutations of literature, or progress of science and the arts, can ever give occasion for it to undergo the least change. It is the oldest of all books, and the newest of all. It came down from heaven to lead up a fallen race; and it will ever keep in advance of that race, pointing them onward to serener and loftier heights. When God was about to bestow it, he looked down through the ages, seeing the end from the beginning. He beheld every fortune,—the woes, the wants, and the greatness of the human family. He saw the objections of infidelity, the oppositions of science, the indifference and unbelief of worldly minds. Not a doubt, or fear, or sorrow, or temptation, in all man's broad and varied experience, escaped his eye. He adapted the gift for every exigency; he placed within it a balm for every pain. This wonderful volume we may take, and carry over the earth. It needs no body-guard, no champions, no rampart to stand between it and its foes. It is invulnerable and all-conquering; he that falleth upon it is broken, and on whomsoever it falleth it grindeth him to powder. We have no anxiety as to consequences. Only let it not be bound. Give it free course. Take every cloud out of the atmosphere through which it shines. Its own warm light will subdue its enemies; just as the sun melts the icebergs when they march out against him from their arctic home.

3. Is it not a comfort to us, now and then, to leave our several spheres of labor, and come into sympathy with this blessed work? Here all the shades of truth blend, and error sinks out of sight. Our varying beliefs are woven into a harmony which no discord mars. Does it not refresh us to come out of the thickets of speculative theology, to lay down the badges of ecclesiastical distinction, to leave the field of denominational effort, and walk hand-in-hand over the sweet plains of the truth. Here is one fold, and one shepherd; and he leads us in green pastures and beside still waters. For a little while we drop our creeds and confessions, which are so needful elsewhere, and speak the same language, and glow with a common desire. You believe this, and I believe that, and he believes something else. But we all believe the Scriptures; and so, forgetting our differences and

freighting ourselves with Bibles and Testaments, we can go forth together, leaving peace and gladness at every poor man's door. We may have misgivings, sometimes, as to the influence of our peculiar views and statements of Christian doctrine; but this is the Word of God, which goeth forth out of his own mouth; and which shall not return unto him void, but shall accomplish the end whereunto he doth send it. As all the colors in nature,—its multitudinous hues and shades and tints,—are contained in a single beam of light, so our many-hued beliefs disappear in this golden beam of benevolence. Whatever opinions we may hold, if we trace them to the Bible, this Society may stand forth as our representative. It is scattering abroad, in the full and rounded form, that truth which we all profess to love.

- 4. Are you the advocate of certain principles of reform, which you feel to be just, and therefore wish to extend through the earth? Then send forth the Bible as your messenger. go safely, where the living preacher might encounter stripes, imprisonment and death. The fear of man will never persuade this ambassador to keep back a wholesome truth. It will work like leaven in the depths of society. God will watch over it; and gradually, as we may hope, it will find its way even into the oppressor's heart. There are other channels of benevolence, more specific than this, through which your influence may and ought to flow. But they are sometimes balked, or turned aside from their objects, while every farthing cast in hither is secured to justice and truth. It is not a set of fallible men, who now offer themselves as dispensers of your charity. Here stand Moses, and Jeremiah, and John, and Paul, and the Lord of glory himself, ready to go whithersoever you shall bid them. You can trust such as these. They will not abuse your confi-They will speak the same language wherever they go; will be as bold in the midst of sinners, whether in eastern or western, or northern or southern lands, as they are while surrounded by troops of friends.
- 5. To the man who is desirous of laboring directly for Christ, and who does not see his way clearly, here is an open door. The regenerating spirit may have called him late in life; or he may lack the means of an academic and theological training; or he may distrust his aptitude for the preacher's office. A noble enterprise here appeals to every such person. He can go to the

depository of this Society, and take the everlasting gospel, and bear it to the ends of the earth. And I know of no career more Christ-like, nor of any death more sublime, than that of the Bible distributer, who falls in the midst of his labors, far away from civilization and the soft voices of home. Love's bosom may not pillow his aching brain. No prayer may be offered; no wail of affection, or low, sobbing music may be breathed around his dying bed. He goes not down like the warrior on the battle-field, wrapped in his country's banner, and cheered by the shouts of victory. He stretches himself in lone and unattended agony,—beneath the cocoa's shade, by the side of some ancient ruin, or on the sands of the burning plain. But peace, and glory, and triumph are there. The gate of heaven is thrown wide to his closing eye. The smile of his Master beams around him, and he hears angelic voices welcoming him home. has glorified God on the earth. He has finished the work which he was sent to do. No monumental pillar may mark his grave, and he may even be denied the rites of Christian burial; but his immortality is safe; and his name shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, when the last relic of earthly grandeur has vanished away.

"Though nameless, trampled and forgot,
His servant's humble ashes lie,
Yet God has marked and sealed the spot,
To call its inmate to the sky."

The Rev. George M. Randall, D. D., of Boston, was next introduced, and addressed the meeting as follows:

The annual meeting of this Society can never be other than an occasion of interest, to all who believe the Bible to be the Word of God.

We meet at this annual convocation, as the members or patrons of this noble institution, not to commend the Bible, nor to defend it. This Book is infinitely above our praise, and does not need our apology.

Nor is it our object on this anniversary, to seek to impress upon the public mind, the fact, that this volume is the infallible Word of the living God. We are here, rather to act upon the common conviction, that the Scriptures are *Divine*, and as such,

to consider our obligations, in the single matter of their distribution.

The fact that God caused these Holy Scriptures to be written for the learning of his fallen creatures, is of itself, conclusive of His will, that all His creatures should have them,—while it is equally decisive of our duty, to give them, to those for whom they were intended:—the universal family of man. Never will our duty be done, until this world-wide distribution has been made.

This consideration, of itself, would be quite sufficient to justify, if not to demand, the formation of a Bible Society, on the ground of the superior facilities, afforded by associated and organized effort, for accomplishing such a purpose.

But there are other considerations which add weight to the obligations of this duty, some of which, it is my purpose, briefly to notice.

Such an organization affords the only common point of union, around which all, who call themselves Christians, can rally, and present an undivided front to an unbelieving world. Union is strength. Whatever, therefore, promises to promote it without any sacrifice of principle, has a strong claim upon our consideration.

In determining the claims of the Bible Society, upon the prayers and patronage of all Christian people, we are to observe, as far as possible, the effect which the circulation of the Bible produces. If that effect be only evil, continually, then this Society is a nuisance. If, on the other hand, the distribution of the Scriptures be a great blessing, then this Society is a great benefit, and has a claim upon the regard of all who reverence the Bible as the Word of God.

The general distribution of this volume tends to produce and to perpetuate the conviction in the public mind, that here is a *Divine* thing—a Book above all books—a Revelation from Heaven. Such a conviction must ever exert a healthful restraint upon a restless age.

The tendency of the times in which we live, is to irreverence. If any agency in human hands can arrest this untoward disposition, it is the Word of God. By its liberal distribution among the young, particularly, we may hope to beget something of that profound reverence for sacred things, which was expressed by

that beautiful, kingly boy, Edward the Sixth, who, seeing one of his attendants use the Bible, as a step to reach some higher object, caught up the sacred volume and kissed it.

The conviction that the Bible is the great statute-book of Heaven,—that its laws relate to time and eternity,—that they are the foundation of all sound morals, while they are the rule of all true holiness, is deepened by a familiarity with its contents.

The fact that it is the Gospel of Christ,—the only Rule of faith, whereby alone mankind may be made "wise unto salvation!" is, of itself, sufficient to command for this Society, the united support of all who regard the Bible as the Gospel of Salvation.

But there are some other considerations, which at the present time add materially to the obligation of Christian men, to aid this great work of Bible distribution.

When this Society was organized, eight-and-forty years ago, its object was then, as now, simply to print and circulate the Bible. Its aim was to do good, by rendering this volume accessible to all classes; leaving it to do its work upon the heart, by the power of the Holy Ghost.

But times have very much changed. Alas, what a brood of heresies have been hatched in this land, since 1819! While the chief object of this Society remains, as it was in the beginning, yet in consequence of these new-born errors, which are every where abroad, a new mission is opened to this association, at any rate, it finds itself in a position to exert a new influence, furnishing a new class of motives to those who ought to aid it.

By the force of the circumstances to which I have alluded, the Bible Society has become the great *Protestant* Institution of the age. Not because it is composed of Christians calling themselves Protestants; but because its legitimate work is destined to be a healthful and faithful, and with God's blessing we may hope, an effectual *Protest*, against the deadly errors that are now becoming so rife among us.

The circulation of the Bible is now, as it always has been, a perpetual protest against the Romish doctrine, of the co-ordinate authority of tradition;—because its distribution, without note or comment, is in effect, a proclamation, that here is the Will of God, written by Himself, and here is the whole of it.

But every Bible which this Society sends forth is, moreover, a protest against the neological teaching of the day, which I am sorry to know is no longer limited to the land that gave it birth. It is here among us, in some of its worst forms. The union of Christians, in the distribution of the Bible, is an earnest protest against the denial of its inspiration, on the part of some, who pretend to preach its truths;—that class of preachers who regard miracles as myths, and ridicule all pretension to inspiration, and treat the story of the cross as a dramatic composition.

Not long ago, a Boston minister said on a public occasion: "Is it not a great thing, something to be thankful for, that there is a party of Christian soldiers who can stand up with serene faces before the world, and strike away certain texts of Scripture, saying they are mere dead wood and have none of the juice of inspiration in them."

Another Boston minister has publicly declared: "I do not take the Bible for my master, nor yet the Church, nor even Jesus of Nazareth, for my master."

These are the sentiments which young men and young women are taught by men called ministers, in the metropolis of the old Puritan State of Massachusetts. Surely we may hope, that the united efforts of Christians in publishing the pure Word of God, may be blest, as an antidote for that disposition, now so rife, to "deify man by uncrowning and undeifying the God, who made and governs man."

Again, the general distribution of the Bible is a protest against that class of a sounder sort of religionists, who hold zealously to the New Testament, but who repudiate the Old, as being no part of the rule of faith, and therefore of no binding obligation upon Christians. Every Bible which is sent forth with the imprimatur of this Society, is a healthful rebuke of the presumption of those, who 'put asunder what God has joined together.' Every such volume goes forth stamped with the sentiment, which might well be adopted as the bannered motto of this Society, expressed in the accommodated language of an illustrious statesman of Massachusetts, who, "though dead, yet speaketh:"—'The Old Testament and the New; one and inseparable, now and forever.'

While some would throw out the Old Testament, there are others who would add a multitude of new Testaments. Besides

Swedenborg, we have the Mormon Bible, and of late, the land has been flooded with a more domestic species of revelations, made by "muttering" mediums that "peep" from under tables, which threaten to do more in the work of driving reason out of the head and religion out of the heart, than all the other shameless impostures combined.

The work which this Society does, in publishing and circulating the pure Word of God, is an unfaltering protest, of all right-minded Christians, against this wholesale imposition upon the credulity and consciences of the people.

The distribution of the Bible as God's own account of His own work, is an effective protest against the flippant folly of that class of philosophers, who have sought, of late, to astound the world, by repudiating the inspired history of the creation of man, on the ground that the unity of the race is untrue, because it is preposterous,—and it is preposterous, because it is contrary to their philosophy; a philosophy, which affirms that there have been as many Adams as there are distinct classes of craniums and complexions among men. The circulation of the Bible protests, on the authority of its Supreme Author, that 'of one blood,' God made all the nations of the earth; that, in the language of the primer,

" In Adam's fall, we sinned all."

This Society is therefore a *Protestant* institution, in the most comprehensive sense of this term.

Another reason for increased interest and activity, in the work of this Association, is the immediate influence which the Bible exerts in promoting the great principles and institutions of Religion. As for example, take away the Scriptures from a professedly Christian people, and how long do you think such a community would continue to "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy"?

Voltaire once remarked, that there was no hope of destroying the Christian religion, so long as the Christian Sabbath was acknowledged and kept by men as a sacred day.

There is another and still stronger motive encouraging and urging us to this good work. It is this: the Bible is the Word of God, and as such, it proposes to do, it promises to do, and it

does do, what no other book ever did do, or ever can do, viz.: it makes men wise unto salvation.

This Book is a transcript of the Divine Mind. It is God himself speaking directly to man. In this, it differs infinitely from all uninspired productions. When we send forth the Bible, we send abroad a knowledge of *His* will, as *He* has written it, and this we are sure He will bless.

What would this world be without a Revelation? That question is answered in the past and present condition of those nations of the earth, on whom the Sun of Righteousness has never risen 'with healing in his wings.'

We are accustomed to hear, from time to time, from various quarters, extravagant eulogies on the Book of Nature;—indicating, if they mean any thing, that if men would study the stars and the flowers, the brooks and the trees, and listen to the notes of the birds and the diapason of the ocean,—they would drink in such knowledge, as would purify the mind, and cleanse the heart, and lift the soul out of the mire of its depravity.

Let us test this by facts familiar to all. There are hundreds of millions of the human race, as noble by nature as any of the children of Adam, who are making this very experiment to-day. Who are they, and what are they doing? They are the heathen, cursed and crushed by the cruelest idolatry;—groveling in the lowest depths of degradation;—sitting where their fathers sat—"in the shadow of death." And what are they doing? Just what they have always been doing; studying the book of nature by starlight! This is their condition; no more wretched and no more degraded than would be that of any other nation who should undertake to gather all their knowledge from the rocks and rills around them, and from the comets and the clouds above them.

The truth is, we cannot study the book of nature aright without the light of Revelation. But it may be said, that if there are not now, there certainly have been many nations, who did not have the Bible, and yet have stood in the foremost rank of civilization;—who have carried the arts to their greatest perfection; to whose poets and painters the world is to-day indebted for its choicest treasures of art,—and to whose very ruins we send our students to learn the first principles of architecture. All this is, indeed, very true, but what does it show? It shows

reflected kind. Coming, originally, from the mind of the Omniscient, it loses its life-giving power when it is reflected from the minds of the fallen. All this culture served but a temporary purpose. Like the moon, it made the world light enough for men to see their way about, but it did not reveal to them the highway to heaven.

What did all this culture reveal to them of the existence and character of the one true and living God? Athens, the learned and the luxurious,—the eye of all Greece,—had almost as many deities as it had streets. What did the knowledge of this refined people comprehend of the immortality of the soul? No more than the Hindoo, or the North American Indian of to-day, knows.

The last hours of Socrates bears a sad testimony to the fearful ignorance of the wisest of the heathen, as to the nature of his own being.

But it is said that many a nation of the earth, without the aid of this "Revelation," have attained a higher degree of intelligence and refinement than some Christian communities. I suppose Dr. Kane and his noble comrades saw many a moonlight night, during their dreary stay in the depths of an Arctic winter, which was lighter than it sometimes is in Boston at noontime, when the sky is covered by a dense cloud. What then? What did this brightness of the moon amount to? It shed the fullness of its cold beams upon the cold snow. Did they awaken nature out of her death-sleep,—did they melt off from her frozen body her spotless winding-sheet,—did they call life from its icy tomb? No! They served only to make grim death more terribly visible.

What is the world without the Sun of Righteousness, which shines alone in the firmament of Revelation, but a "frozen charnel house?" "The world without the light of the Bible is morally eclipsed, and blasted with the winter of the second death; and that frost and gloom kill not only its religion, but kill its freedom as well, and its peace and its civilization and its science."

What would the natural world be if it were lighted by the twinkling of the far off stars, shining out of a cold sky? What would be the consequence if the days of earth were only

lunar days, so that its inhabitants walked only by moonlight? What would become of animal and vegetable life, in a world where light was without heat? Where would be the resurrection of Spring,—and the Harvest Home of Autumn?

Such is the moral and spiritual world, without the light of a Divine Revelation.

Natural science and natural religion are like the light of the moon, constantly waxing or waning, bright and beautiful indeed, wherever and whenever the horizon chances to be cloudless, but it is light without heat. It has no life-giving power, which is the very thing which a world dead in trespasses and sins needs and must have. In respect therefore to mankind's greatest need, such light is comparatively useless.

The Bible is that light, whose beams are not reflected from the face of nature, but from the face of the Sun of Righteousness. Its rays have a resurrection power. They "bring Life and Immortality to light." They "raise men from the death of sin to the life of righteousness."

When this Society issue a copy of the Bible, they send forth a beam of this divine radiance into the thick darkness which broods upon a benighted world.

It may be asked, How can this be? I answer, I do not know. I only know that it is so; for it is by the "foolishness of preaching" that the world is to be converted and saved.

The Spirit of God wrote this Book, and the Spirit of God goes with it.

No more do I understand how it is that the natural sun can and does call the natural world from death to life; how his genial beams in Spring-time clothes the hills and valleys of earth in living green.

I know that on the fourth day of God's great week, when the Creator brought the Sun to his throne, and introduced him to the universe, as the King who was "to rule the day," that he joined the light and heat of his beams in perpetual wedlock, and when they came to earth, they came together.

So I believe the spirit of inspiration is wedded to the words of inspiration, and thus, and only thus, they have a life-giving power.

This is it which imparts a matchless dignity and a transcendent importance to the circulation of the Bible, as the Word of God: a dignity and an importance which do not and cannot attach to uninspired learning.

This Word is the light of the world. I may be asked, If the Spirit of God always goes with the Word of God, as heat always goes with the light of a sun-beam, why is it that it is not always effectual? And inasmuch as it does not always bring life out of death, may it not be, that the Spirit is not invariably with the Word, and so the Bible, under some circumstances, may have no more moral effect than any well-written book from an uninspired pen?

I answer:—if a man can catch a stray sun-beam, wandering about, divorced from the heat to which the Almighty wedded it on the day of its creation, then, and not till then, may you conclude that the *Word* is suffered, by the God who wrote it, to go abroad separate from the Spirit by which it was indited.

As to the failure to produce fruits of holiness in all souls which receive it, need we be reminded how many fields there are of stony ground and sandy soil, which are visited year after year, by the beams of the sun, and by the early and latter rains, and which bring no fruit to perfection? Is the fault in the sun, or in the soil?

So these Holy Scriptures are sent abroad by agencies, such as this Society employs, and are preached by God's ministers, and the fact that the fruits of righteousness are not always found in the lives of those who receive and hear them, does not prove that the Spirit of God does not go with the Word of God.

That Word will not fail. He has sent it forth, and we may rest assured that it will not return to him void. It will accomplish that whereunto it is sent.

Shall we not be willing co-workers with its Author, in sending it all over the earth, as "leaves from the tree of life for the healing of the nations?"

This work is indeed our bounden duty, but it is not less our glorious privilege.

The closing Address was by Rev. E. O. HAVEN, of Boston, who spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT:

It is come to be understood in philosophy, that there is no such power as chance. But I have thought that if any situation would properly suggest the idea of it, it is that of the *last* speaker at an anniversary, when he wishes to select a theme that may not have been anticipated by those who have spoken, and yet may naturally grow out of what they have advanced.

Perhaps one of the most embarrassing positions imaginable, is to be called upon to make a speech with the whole universe of topics before one, and no conceivable reason offered why one subject rather than another should be chosen. It is quite a metaphysical problem as to how a man can throw himself on any one track, when a thousand radiate from the centre where he stands, all equally attractive. Such has been my embarrassment in attempting to collect some thoughts for the present occasion. The Bible—I say it not in metaphor, but in bald literalness—is as multiplex in its themes and thoughts as nature. It is a condensed universe. It is not a thing, a fragment broken off or separated from a mass; it is not a work, like the Iliad, or the Paradise Lost, or the Pilgrim's Progress; it is not a collection of works, like a Cyclopedia; it is all in one. It is the source of thought, the spring of feeling, whence gush forth perpetually thought and heart, fitted for all times and all men, vitalizing human nature, and beautifying all good institutions that have been, or are, or can possibly be. It is God's work, and differs from man's work as God differs from man, in infinity.

And when I consider that any attempt to exhibit its glory within the compass of less than half an hour, would be just as absurd as to undertake to describe all material philosophy and mental and moral philosophy in the same time; and when I reflect that what might be considered an exhibition and perfect presentation of one separate biblical topic, would come as far short of a harmonious picture of the whole, as the description of a single leaf would fall short of a full exhibition of the vegetable kingdom, or the description of a single man would fall short of all human history, I feel not only my incompetency, but the incompetency of any man, to make what might be considered a worthy

description of the value of the Bible. Indeed, this is a glory not to be syllabled by the human tongue, nor to be sketched by type or engraving; it will never be seen till stamped on a wholly regenerated "new heavens and new earth," and uttered by the voices of the eternally redeemed.

But, Sir, the occasion demands that a particular topic should be selected, and I would choose a humble one, simply to notice the wisdom of God in having given us his Revelation in the form of a book.

A Revelation was necessary. Human history, outside of the conservative influences of God's revelation, has always exhibited a sad tendency to degenerate. Popular instincts have invariably a substratum of truth, and the universal popular instincts in non-Christian nations have recognized a tendency to degenerate. The gradual subsidence from the golden down through the silver, into the brazen and iron ages, was a common thought in Greece and Rome. They might have added, prophetically, an age of mud and filth; for this only can describe the rottenness of society when Jesus came. The instincts of all heathen literature are the same. The facts in all heathen history show the same tendency. Primitive simplicity, temperance, frugality, longevity, virtue; subsequent ambition, despotism, substitution of outward police for inward principle, superstition, feebleness, disorganization, depopulation, savagism. Such is the story of Egypt; such is the story of the ancient cities and empires in Asia; such is the story, so far as it goes, of Southern Europe; such is the story of ancient Mexico; and such the dim traditions, confirmed by mysterious mounds and sepulchral remains, of the Indians of our own forests. It had passed into a historical axiom, that nations have their growth and decay; and almost into another, that no nation, once fallen, is ever redeemed. What then was before the world, but Malthusian desolation and death?

Now we look upon these theories as truth, inexorable, granite truth. Like much other truth, partial, fragmentary and destined to pass away into mightier truth—alone, an unsightly and rough block; but when builded into the majestic temple of the whole, contributing its part to the universal harmony. It is a fact that human nature, radically wrong in the beginning, but yet good in its elements, yields more and more to evil and to sin. The

deductions of heathen philosophers were right on this subject, and they had no hope. The opinions of unchristian philosophers in Christian lands are not to be regarded. They are prejudiced. They cannot judge impartially. Heathen philosophy did not try to stem evil with its baby hand. It yielded, and wailed, and satirized, and plunged into the same wickedness and woe, and went down laughing and cursing into the abyss. It could do nothing else.

God has tried two grand experiments on the earth. The one was before the deluge, when men were intrusted with a pure religion, a virgin earth, long and vigorous life, and bidden to show their nature. The result of the experiment was the catastrophe which justly washed the offensive mass away and once more sweetened the heavens and the earth. The second experiment was after the deluge, when the elements, more mixed and shorter lived, seemed hastening to a similar result. On a small scale, again and again, the result has been the same. Multitudes of smaller deluges have in mercy relieved the world of Sodoms, Gomorrahs, Canaans, Babylons, and Ninevehs. But God had promised. The world having exhibited fully enough to convince the most skeptical the incompetency of human nature to sustain itself, a new element was introduced. In the chemistry of the Omniscient, a new ingredient was required. It is the Bible. is the counterpart to man's degeneracy. It is the bulwark of society. It is to restore the world to sweetness; man to reason; life to harmony.

Behold now the wisdom of God, in the shape of the remedy he has provided. It is a Book; a Book of books; not merely in its royal character among books, but in its literal composition, consisting of many.

Were our religion a bundle of traditions, transmitted from mouth to ear, from generation to generation, we should have had, as is always the case with traditionary lore, two parallel revelations, an exoteric and an esoteric, a textual and a rabbinical, one for the people and one for the priests.

The revelation would have been converted into an engine of tyranny and terror. Besides, it would have been subject to fluctuations. Like the Eleusinian mysteries, it would have expired, or degenerated into the mummeries of vagrant magic and popular witchcraft.

Nothing but a perpetual miracle could have preserved it from corruption, and no evidence whatever of such perpetual miracle could have been satisfactory. Emphasis alone would change the truth. Passion would distort it, fear would weaken it, sickly sentimentality would soften it, priestly ambition would remould it, and it would soon smell of the offensive breath of the mouths through which it had passed.

But behold it now in a book. At once embalmed, immortalized and delivered from the universal human law controlling living things, of fluctuation. An unchangeable vitality! And by a mysterious and utterly super-philosophical influence, God stamps upon the Jewish mind, among other indelible peculiarities, a stronger than superstitious reverence for the very letter of the Bible. So that bating little verbal variations, which are an advantage, since they stimulate curiosity, we have on the passionless and eternal pages, the ever-living will of God.

See, too, what it gains in extent, in multiplicity, and variety. The Bible is not a straight bar of gold running through the ages, of uniform width and thickness. It is not even a Doric column, narrow at the top and swelling gradually and uniformly until it shall reach the millennial bottom; but it is more like a tree, sending out its thousands of branches, and its thousands of roots; nay, rather, it is a component part of human history, incapable of being illustrated by anything but itself; so incorporated with human institutions, that there is no history possible that does not consider it; so dominant over reason, that no mental philosophy is valuable except viewed in its light; so wide and original and correct in its statements, that even natural science is reliable only as it coincides with it, and finds its highest achievements anticipated in its terse expressions. Now there is nothing else like this. We are painfully conscious that language itself by ordinary usage has become too diluted to express proper conceptions of God and his works. When we say there is nothing else like it, we are ordinarily understood to mean, nothing else equal to it of the same kind; but I mean literally there is nothing else like it. Nothing of the same genus, or class. There are many planets, there are many suns, but in this world at least there is but one Bible—nor could there be two without repeating each other, which would still be one—any more than there could be two Divine Beings.

Now this omnipresent permeation of the Bible through every thing human, has been brought about through its form as a book.

Allow me to mention also, the bearing of this fact on the evidence of the divinity of the Bible. It is proved that the blood circulates through the whole body, by the fact that you cannot anywhere make a slight puncture without drawing a drop; and in like manner the nervous energy must be everywhere, for everywhere is sensation; so the Bible permeates all history. Its facts constitute history, some of the weightiest parts, and absolutely indispensable parts. Thus, whoever would know the past, is compelled to face its facts and to study them. I need not more than remind you of those unearthed evidences of ancient cities, and of those strange hieroglyphics on the rocks of the Sinaitic wilderness. These are only specimen facts. But all history is Take the crusades—the very name leads you to the the same. Take the discoveries of the Middle Ages. Go behind phenomena to their causes. Look at the basis of jurisprudence, of the laws of nations, of the various styles of art, of the most abiding philosophies and literatures, and you are guided more or less deviously but invariably to that old Book of books. not elaborate these thoughts—but is this not a fact? And thus we see the Book is not local, but universal.

Some "rationalistic" commentators would have us notice that Asia is the birth-place of religions, and speak of the Asiatic character of the Bible. Asia is the birth-place of the Bible simply because, sent to the earth, it must strike it at some spot, and what was more fitting than where the most of men were, and whence were to go out the formative influences of the whole world. The central doctrines of the Bible have no local coloring. There is no more of oriental imagery than of occidental logic in the Word of God. It strikes at the heart of humanity; and at heart all are the same, and its pulses are felt to the ends of the earth.

And thus too the evidence of the Bible is both cumulative and ever new. The stamp of authority on a legal paper may become dim; the wax may wear off; the sign-manual may fade; indeed, the text and the signature grow old and less authoritative together. So it might have been anticipated would the Bible. Who is not familiar with the silly and impudent objection of

infidelity? The Bible may have been a revelation to those who first received it, but is it so to us? The miracles may have been authoritative to those who witnessed them, but they themselves now encumber the record, and require ten-fold stronger evidence to substantiate even them! And perhaps even sincere Christians, who have felt and known in their hearts that the gospel is peace and light to them, bearing with it its own most precious testimony, have nevertheless feared that its evidence might weaken as the world rolls on; that to their children's children, when Jesus should be two thousand years off, he might be dimly seen, and that by and by the Bible records shall be overloaded with the weight of years. If such have been the fears of any, Sir, let them give them to the winds. God will take care of his Word. The expanded universe and this condensed universe are to men developed together. God writes the testimony of his Word on the unfolding ages. History utters her thousand voices in harmony with this record. Prophecy, as it passes over into fact, piles up the evidence; and if the mass settles a little with the weight of time, the top is always fresh and brilliant.

And now if required to select a half century in which God had given the most evidence of the truth of his word, I should hesitate long which to select—whether that which records the history of Moses, that which records the history of David, that which records the history of the Apostles, that which records the history of Luther and Calvin and the English Reformers, that which records the history of the Puritans, that which records the history of Wesley, or brighter perhaps than all, that which records the dawning history of associated aggressive missionary enterprise—the last fifty years! And who shall anticipate the confirmations of God's word that the next half century shall unroll? And all this is rendered possible because the Bible is a book.

But, Sir, it is as a book that the Bible is eminently fitted for general and universal circulation. Thus can we recognize the development of the divine purposes in printing, in machinery, in steam-presses, in Bible societies. This Society is a part of the church. It was designed in heaven. It was fore-ordained—written in God's great plan of future history. When pleading this cause, I am pleading the cause of God.

I do not believe that the Bible alone will save the world.

That is not the design. It was not the purpose to sanctify the world by one impulse, or one body of impulses, that made the Bible. No, a series of impulses was intended to the end of time.

There are three general outside agencies to convert the world. Just as there are three chords in music, three colors in the perfect sun-ray, three agencies in light, three graces, Faith, Hope, and Charity; so are there three great external powers to sanctify and regenerate humanity: the BIBLE, the MINISTRY, the CHURCH. Neither can long exist as a vitality alone. All together are a power, representative of Omnipotence and Love.

Be it ours then to pray and to labor for the time when every human being shall have a Bible, every hamlet and company of men a Minister, and the whole world shall constitute the Church of Christ.

After the usual Doxology, and the Benediction, the meeting was dissolved.

CONSTITUTION.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New-England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Brown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

- SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal, which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.
- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.

Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

BY-LAWS.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

ARTICLE I.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice President, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice President and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository,—each of said Committees to consist of three persons.

ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository annually, four copies of the Common Bible, or the value thereof, (1,00,) in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

BY VIRTUE OF A CONTRIBUTION OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

Albree, John, Besten. Albro, Rev. John A., Cambridge. Albro, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Albro, Miss Annie E. Andrews, Artemas F., Fitchburg. Andrews, C. L., Boston. *Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. *Appleton, Samuel, Boston. Appleton, William, " Atwood, John W., Chatham. Alden, Almira S. C., Fozbore'. Babcock, Mrs. Nancy, Boston. Baker, Mrs. Eleanor J. W., Dorchester. Barber, Martin, Sherbern. Barnard, William F., Marlboro.'
Barnes, William, " Bartlett, Thomas, Boston. Bayloy, Robert, Newburyport. Beebe, James M., Bester. Beebe, Mrs. James M. " Beecher, Rev. William H., No. Brookfield. Belknap, Miss Martha M., Framingham. Blanchard, Miss Frances C., Groten. Bodwell, Rev. J. C., Framingham. *Bond, George Boston. Bowers, Luke K. Bowers, Mrs. Cara H. Brackett, James, Quincy. Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgetown. Brant, Aaron, South Reading. Brewer, Cyrus, Dorchester. Briggs, Rev. William T., Princeton. *Bromfield, Elizabeth, Beston. *Brooks, Peter C. Brooks, Peter C. Groton. Brown, Joseph Bulkley, Mrs. Catharine F. "Butler, Mrs. Jane D. Cady, Rev. Daniel R., West Cambridge. Cady, Mrs. Harriet S. Capen, Mrs. Charles, Framingham. Capen, Miss C. Elizabeth, Carpenter, Catharine E., Fozbore'. Carpenter, Daniel, Chase, Hezekiah, Lynn. Child, Miss Lucy, Thetford, Vt. Choate, David, Topafield. Clap, James, Dorchester. Clap, Mrs. Rebecca, Beston. Clapp, John C. Clark, James G., Andover. Clark, John L. Clark, Jonathan, Winchester. Clark, Oliver R. Clark, Miss Nelly, Sherborn Clark, Rev. Rufus W., Brooklyn, N. Y. Clary, Mrs. S. S., Ashland. *Cobb, Richard, Boston. Cobb, Jacob, Abington. *Codman, Charles R. Beston. Codman, Mrs. Catharine, Conn, Horace, Weburn.

Coolidge, Joseph, Boston. Coolidge, Lowell, Sherborn. Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Curtis, Abner, East Abington. Cushman, George H., North Bridgewater. Cutter, Stephen, Winchester. Cutter, Stephen II. Damon, Albert P., Reading. Dana, Samuel, Boston. Dana, Charles B., Brookline. Dane, John H. Davis, Alvah M., Haverhill. Davis, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Northbore'. Donham, Rev. George, Barre. Denham, Mrs. Clara D. Dix, Mrs. Elijah, Boston. Dodge, Rev. John, Harvard. Dodge, Mrs. Ann S. Dodge, Mrs. J. M. C., Andever. *Dorr, John, Boston. *Dow, Joriah, *Dowse, Edward, Dedkam. Dunn, Edward H., Boston, Dutch, Elizabeth M. Dyor, Rev. E. Porter, Hingham. Eager, William, Eastburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, Eaton, Eben, Framingham. Eaton, Miss Martha W., Fitchburg. Eaton, William, Boston. Eaton, William J., Westbore'. *Eliot, Samuel, Boston. Eliot, Samuel A. *Elwell, Robert, Emery, Mrs. Harriet, North Weymouth. Everett, Edward, Beston. Farnsworth, Mrs. Abel, Groton. Farwell, Stephen T., Cambridge. Fay, Cyrus, Westbore'. Fearing, Albert, Boston. Foaring, Mrs. Albert, "Ford, Rev. George, Groton. Ford, Thomas A., Besten. Ford, Thomas A., North Bridgewater. Ford, Mrs. Eliza C. Foedick, Charles, Grolon. Foodick, Frederick, Foedick, Samuel W. Fosdick, Miss Mary, Francis, Ebenezer, Beston. Gale, Rev. Wakefield, Reckport. Gale, Mrs. Wakefield, Gale, Justin Edwards, Garrette, Rev. Edmund Y., Fezbere'. Garrette, Mrs. Franzenia W. *Gibbe, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Gilman, Miss Rebecca I., Bradford. Gordon, Solomon J., Besten. Gordon, Mrs. Rebecca, "Gott, J. R., Rockport. *Gray, Francis C., Boston. *Gray, Heary,

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Income from funds, .										
Annual subscriptions,										
Returns for books donated,										
Legacy.—Newburyport, N	ls.,	Miss	Deb	orah	G.	Pays	on,	b y		
John Harris, Ex'r, .									12	50

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SUFFOLK COUNTY.

Boston,	First Chu	rch, R	ev. M	r. Elli	s, pro	ceeds	of ch	aildr	en's	fair,	\$ 10	00
64	Second Ch	urch,	Rev.	Dr. Ro	obbin	3'8,	•	•	•	•	66	00
44	Society of	Rev.	Dr. A	dams,	Esse	k Stre	et,	•	•	•	208	76
66	66	Rev.	Dr. B	lagden	, Old	South	h,	•	•	•	71	18
66	66	Rev.	Mr. C	lark, l	East I	Boston	l ,	•	•	•	33	76
46	66	Rev.	Mr. I	exter,	Pine	Stree	et,	•	•	•	21	05
66	66	Rev.	Mr. F	ield, S	alem	Street	t,	•	•	•	100	00
66	66	Rev.	Dr. K	irk, M	ount	Verno	on,	•	•	•	323	68
66	46	Rev.	Mr. P	orter,	South	Bost	on,	•	•	•	63	62
44	66	Rev.	Mr. R	chard	ls, W	inter	Stree	t,	•	•	77	13
66	66	Rev.	Mr. S	mith,	Shaw	mut A	Aven	ue,	•	•	70	00
66	44	Rev.	Mr. S	tone, I	Park 8	Street	,	•	•	•	148	61
44	66	Rev.	Dr. W	aterbu	ıry, B	owdoi	in St	reet,	142,5	50;		
		Mr	. Eliz	abeth	P. L	eavitt	, (L.	M.)	20,0	Ю;		
		Jac	ob Q.	Kettel	ll, (L.	m.) 2	0,00,	•	•	•	182	50
66	St. Paul's	Churc	h,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	120	00
66	Trinity Ch	urch,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	63	10
66	Church of	the M	[essiah	١,	•	•	•	•	•	•	21	45
66	Hanover S	treet l	Metho	dist E	piscop	al Ch	urch	, (1	L. M.) .	25	00
66	Hedding M							•	•	•	9	87
44	North Rus		-	-		-		hurc	h,	•	11	17
46	Rev. E. F.	Slafte	er, Ag	ent Ar	neric	n Bit	ole Sc	ociet	y,	•	284	00

Boston, Hon. Albert Fearing, (L. M.) 20,00; Alexander Beal, Esq. (L. M.) 20,00; Hon. Edward Everett, (L. M.) 20,00; Mrs. Nancy Babcock, (L. M.) 20,00; Elizabeth M. Dutch, (L. M.) 20,00; C. L. Andrews, (bal. for L. M.) 10,00, "Mrs. Henry S. Hallet, 5,00; Dea. Nathaniel Willis, 2,00; G. R. Fiak, 1,00; Timothy Eaton, 2,00; Mrs. M. A. S. Mansfield, 1,00; J. Q. A., Treasurer, 1,00,. "A friend, 2,00; do. 1,00; do. by Rev. Dr. Adams, 25 cents; do. for circulating the Scriptures in heathen lands, 3,00, Chelsea, Winnisimmet Church, "Broadway Church, "Mount Bellingham Methodist Episcopal Church,	12 6 76 39	00 00 25 00 40 14
	2,159	67
ESSEX COUNTY.		
Amesbury and Salisbury Mills Village, Congregational Church	A 1 4	~
and Society,	\$ 14	
West, Society of Rev. Mr. Thompson,	67 51	
Andover, Chapel Congregation,	51 19	34
"North Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, "South Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.	, 12	02
	74	12
		00
Beverly, Dane Street Church and Society,	35	
" Washington Street Church and Society,	16	
Bradford, Congregational Church and Society, (5 L. M.)	110	
Danvers, First Congregational Church and Society, (A. B. S.)	20	
South, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. 1		
Georgetown, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. 8	•	
Hamilton, Congregational Church and Society,	., 02	
" Miss E. Knowlton's Sabbath School Class, for the	•	10
Bible in China,	5	00
Haverhill, Moses Welch,		00
Ipswich, Society of Rev. Mr. Fitz, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	5 9	
Lynn, Central Congregational Church and Society,	12	75
" Boston Street Methodist Episcopal Church,	12	33
" Francis A. Swasey, (1 L. M. in part,)	5	00
Manchester, A friend, (1 L. M.)	20	00
Marblehead, Capt. Dixey,	3	00
Nahant, Independent Methodist Episcopal Church,	24	81
Newbury, Society of Rev. Dr. Withington, (A. B. S.)	34	77
" Byfield, Society of Rev. Mr. Tenney,		00
Newburyport, Society of Rev. Mr. Campbell,	35	10
" Belleville, Society of Rev. T. D. Fiake, (1 L. M.	~	
A. B. S.)	71	30

Newburyport, Whitefield Congregational Church and Society (1 L. M. A. B S.)	ty,	\$ 30	00
Methuen, Society of Rev. Mr. Phillips, of which 30,00 by D		4 00	UU
Joseph F. Ingalls for 1 L. M. A. B. S.; balance for			
L. M. A. B. S. in part,	•	71	55
Rockport, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.	A. B.	s.) 35	00
Salem, Crombie Street Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. 8.)	•	35	10
" South, Church and Society,	•	39	50
Saugus, Congregational Church and Society,	•	10	00
" Methodist Episcopal Church,	•	5	00
		1,033	01
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.			
Ashby, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	•	\$ 20	00
Boxboro', Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	•	4	50
Cambridge, Shepard Congregational Society, (6 L. M.)	•	184	
Cambridgeport, Elizabeth Harlow,	•		00
Charlestown, Winthrop Church, (1 L. M. A. B. 8.)	•		50
Chelmsford, Middlesex Village, Samuel F. Wood, Esq. (2 L.	M.		
A. B. S.)		60	00
Concord, Union Bible Society, (4 L. M. A. B. S.)	•	130	
Dunstable, Congregational Church and Society, 3,01; Williams	am		
Dunn, 5,00; Rev. D. Adams, 1,00,		9	01
East Cambridge, A friend, (A. P. S.)	•	•	00
Framingham, Hollis Evangelical Church and Society,	•		00
Groton, Union Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,	(9 т.		
" Mrs. Mary Woodbury, (1 L. M.)	(21.	•	00
Holliston, Congregational Church and Society,	•		00
Hopkinton, First Congregational Church and Society,	•		00
Littleton, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	•		25
Lowell, Zadock Rogers, (6 L. M. A. B. S.)	•		
<u> </u>	•	180	
Melrose, Methodist Episcopal Church, (A. B. S.) Natick, First Congregational Church and Society,	•		21
Pepperell, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	•		67
Reading, Bethesda Church,	•		57
	•		00
·	•		70
Sherborn, Congregational Church and Society,	•	_	50
remain reading coeffers, (1 is al.)	•		00
Shirley, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	•		75
South Reading, Congregational Church and Society,	•		30
Sudbury, Congregational Church and Society,	•		50
Methodist Episcopal Church, (A. B. s.)	•	_	00
Townsend, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,	•		00
Wayland, Congregational Church and Society,	,	11	
West Cambridge, Congregational Church and Society,	•	52	
Westford, Union Church, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	•		80
Winchester, Congregational Church and Society,	•	133	25
	\$	1,338	85

WORCESTER COUNTY.

Athol, Chestnut Hill Sewing Circle,	\$ 8	00
Barre, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)		57
Fitchburg, Calvinistic Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	80	47
Gardner, First Church,	12	00
" Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, .	10	00
Grafton, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M. A. B. S.).	90	00
Harvard, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, .		35
" Mrs. Samuel Bacon,		00
" Mrs. Hosea F. Davis's Sabbath School class,		00
Holden, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		06
Lunenburg, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,		60
Northboro', Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)		00
Northbridge, First Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,		00
Petersham, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.).		00
"Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.) Princeton, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		00
Royalston, Society of Rev. E. W. Bullard,		39 10
" South, Collection by Artemas Hancock,		00
Spencer, Rev. E. F. Newell,	_	00
Sutton, Congregational Church and Society, (A. B. S.)		13
Upton, Mr. William Fisk, 1,00; Mrs. Lucy Fisk, 1,00,		00
Westboro', Evangelical Church and Society,		84
West Boylston, First Congregational Church and Society, (A. B. S.)	-	00
Whitinsville, Congregational Church and Society, (30,00 of		
	153	32
Worcester, A friend,	10	00
•		
•	885	83
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY.		
Amherst, North, Congregational Church and Society,	30	63
Belchertown, Benevolent Association,	75	00
North Hadley, Benevolent Society,	89	07
South Hadley, Ladies in First Congregational Church and Society,	31	97
	170	-
•	176	01
HAMPDEN COUNTY.		
HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.—Mr. James Brewer, Springfield	, Tr	•
Donations, 1,134,56; less, 262,43 credited to Bible account, . \$	872	13
FRANKLIN COUNTY.		
FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield	, Tr	•
Ashfield, Second Congregational Church and Society, 8,22;	,	
Ladies' Association, 10,64; Gent. do. 9,00,	27	SA
Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	
Conway, Congregational Church and Society, (1 1. A. A. S. S.)	69	
CONTRACT CHARACTER CONTRACT CO	40	

Deerfield, Monument Church and Society,	\$ 13	00
South, Congregational Church and Society,	21	00
Greenfield, First Congregational Church and Society,	21	02
" Second Congregational Church and Society,	40	81
Leverett, Congregational Church and Society,	16	
Shelburne, Ladies' Association, 27,02; Gent. do. 27,09, (1 L. M.	E A	11
A. B. 5.)	54	
Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. 8.)		
Warwick, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society, .	10	
Rev. John Eastman,	3	00
		_
	\$ 347	00
Deduct amount paid for printing Annual Report,	21	46
	\$ 325	54
NORFOLK COUNTY.		
MOIL OLD COUNTY.		
Braintree and Weymouth, Union Church and Society,	\$ 33	20
Brookline, Harvard Church and Society,	85	23
Miss C. P. Jephson, (1 L. M.)	20	00
Dorchester, Second Congregational Church and Society, Rev.		
Mr. Means's,	220	80
" Mrs. Leonard Woods, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	
" Dea. James Clap, (1 L. M.)	20	
" Village, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		
Franklin, Society of Rev. Mr. Hunt,	111	
	111	TU
mr. and mrs. 44 miant ruthhal an oncomes minimum	•	
Kanzas,		00
Medway, First Congregational Church and Society,	41	00
" Village, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.		
A. B. S.)	33	44
Needham, West, Congregational Church and Society,	8	67
Randolph, Society of Rev. Mr. Cordley,	33	00
" East, Winthrop Church and Society,	24	86
Roxbury, Eliot Church, 114,48; less 45,11 credited on Bible		
account,	69	87
" Jamaica Plain, Baptist Church,	24	_
Stoughton, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.).	20	
777 41 CI 41 CI 41 A 70 B 8 CM		
		00
Wrentham, Congregational Church and Society,		00
	\$ 833	<u> </u>
DDIOMOT COTTUME	4 000	40
BRISTOL COUNTY.		
Attleboro', Hebron Society,	2 8	00
Norton, Congregational Church and Society,	_	75
Taunton, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society,		00
" Winslow Church and Society,		00
	\$ 97	75
	A 4.	

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Abington, North, Congregational Church and Society,	•	•	\$ 12	00
" South, Congregational Church and Society, (11	L. M. .	A.B	s.) 30	00
" William R. Vining, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	•	•	30	00
" East, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L.	. w .)	•	28	00
Bridgewater, Congregational Church and Society, .	•	•	16	42
Hingham, Society of Rev. Mr. Dyer, (1 L. M.)	•	•	20	00
Middleboro', Central Congregational Church and Society,	•	•	24	10
" First Congregational Church and Society,	•	•	34	60
Plymouth, Second Congregational Church and Society,	•	•	6	61
" Capt. Ebenezer Pierce,	•	•	3	00
			4 204	79
			\$ 204	10
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Barnstable, Centreville, Congregational Church and Societ	ty,	•	\$ 18	56
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Falmouth, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. in	ı par	与)	15	00
Sandwich, Calvinistic Congregational Church and Society	, (1 1	i. M	.) 25	00
			3 84	56
		_	•	
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Brunswick, Me., Methodist Episcopal Church, (A. B. s.)	•	•	\$ 6	00
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Miss P., by Rev. N. Adams, D. D	•	•		50
			\$ 244	70
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ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING,

IN BOSTON,

MAY 24, 1858, BEING THE XLIX. ANNIVERSARY.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.

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1858.



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																Rec. Secretary
GEO!	RGE	R. S	AMI	PSON,	Es	Q.,	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Treasurer.
																Auditor.

TRUSTEES.

Rev. William Jenks, D. D.
Rev. Charles Lowell, D. D.
Rt. Rev. Manton Eastburn, D. D.
Rev. George Richards,
Rev. John S. Stone, D. D.
Rev. Baron Stow, D. D.
Rev. William R. Clark,
John Tappan,
Albert Fearing,

Heman Lincoln,
Samuel May,
Jacob Sleeper,
Charles T. Russell,
Francis O. Watts,
Theophilus R. Marvin,
Stephen Fairbanks,
William Appleton,
Nathaniel H. Emmons, Regs.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

TO WHOM APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE MADE FOR BIBLES.

REV. GEORGE RICHARDS, GEORGE R. SAMPSON, Esq., and ALBERT FEARING, Esq.

Officers of the Society from 1809 to 1858.

PRESII	DENTS.	
Hon. William Phillips, 1809-27	Hon. Simon Greenleaf, LL. D	1849—54
Rev. John Pierce, D. D 1828—19	Hon. Richard Fletcher,	1854
VICE PRE	SIDENTS.	
Rev. John Lathrop, D. D 1809-16	Hon. Simon Greenleaf, LL. D	1848—49
Rev. John T. Kirkland, D. D 1816—28	Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D	1849—52
Rev. Henry Ware, D. D 1828-14	Bev. N. L. Frothingham, D. D.	1853
Bev. John Codman, D. D 1844—48		
CORRESPONDING	SECRETARIES.	
		1010 10
Bev. Joseph Stevens Buckminster, 1809—19	Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D	1818—49 1849—52
Rev. Samuel C. Thacher, 1813—17 Rev. Charles Lowell, D. D 1817—18	Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D.	1853
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RECORDING S	ECRETARIES.	
Rev. John Pierce, D. D 1809-28	Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D.	183914
Rev. Daniel Sharp, D. D 1828-30	Rev. William M. Rogers,	
Rev. Cyrus P. Grosvenor, 1830—31	Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D.	1845-49
Rev. James D. Knowles, 1831—32	Rev. George Richards,	1849—53
Bev. William Jenks, D. D 1832—39	Rev. Daniel Butler,	1852
M D D A C I	rnena	
TREASI		
Samuel H. Walley, Esq 1809—11	Henry Edwards, Eeq	
Hon. Peter O. Thacher, 1811—12	George R. Sampson, Esq	1849
John Tappan, Esq 1812—35		
EXECUTIVE (COMMITTEES.	
Rev. William E. Channing, D. D. 1809—18	Charles Tappan, Esq	1830-40
Hon. Jonathan Phillips, 1809—16	Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D.	
Stephen Higginson, Esq 1809—15	Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D.	
Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D 1815—18	Henry Edwards, Esq	
Edward Tuckerman, Esq 1816—30 Bev. Henry Ware, Jr., D. D 1818—30	Rev. George Richards,	1849 1849
Rev. Benjamin B. Wisner, D. D. 1821-35	Albert Fearing, Esq	1858

ANNUAL REPORT.

There have been issued from the Depository, during the year, 17,295 Bibles; 22,108 Testaments; 3,723 Testaments with the Psalms; and 862 Psalms;—making a total of 44,008. Of these, 41,998 were in the English, and 2,010 in various foreign languages.

The gratuitous issues have been 5,861 Bibles; 6,685 Testaments; 283 Testaments with the Psalms; and 37 Psalms; — making a total of 12,866.

They have been appropriated as follows:—To seamen, 5,072; to Sabbath and other schools, 1,136; to city missions, 872; to public institutions and public houses, 512; to destitute families and individuals in Massachusetts, 4,711; and the remaining 563 abroad.

The income of the Society, for the year ending April 30, has been \$20,079 99; of which were from donations, legacies, and annual subscriptions, \$7,911 39; from sales, \$11,033 54; returned for books granted, \$4 06; from interest and dividends, \$1,131 00. The amount in the Treasury, at the commencement of the year, was \$1,009 45, making the total available means, \$21,089 44.

The expenditures during the year have been, in all, \$19,736 07; of which were for Bibles and Testaments, \$12,547 37; donations to the American Bible Society, \$2,489 14; rent, postage and insurance, \$253 75; freight, \$127 66; wrapping paper, twine, printing, stationery, and advertising, \$87 08; fuel and incidental expenses, \$35 93; annual report, \$75 91; expense of annual meeting and opening the chapel, \$19 00; salary of general agent, depository agent, and assistant, \$2,450 00; salary and expenses of distributing agents in Middlesex and Plymouth Counties, \$1,416 06; traveling expenses of general agent, \$234 17;—leaving a balance in the Treasury of \$1,353 37.

The General Agent of the Society, Rev. Mr. Butler, has pursued his labors as heretofore; visiting the different towns of the Commonwealth, and commending the good work in which we are engaged to all whom it has been his privilege to address. Pecuniary reverses have, in many cases, imparted increased interest to a Book which is the friend alike of rich and poor, and better than thousands of gold and silver.

The Rev. Mr. Slafter is the Agent of the American Bible Society, for the Episcopal Church in New England. Since he entered on his work in Massachusetts, about a year since, he has visited and made collections in twenty-one of its Parishes, whose united contributions have amounted to \$1,635 14—most of which has been paid into our Treasury. His presentation of the cause has been fruitful of good.

Mr. Hoop, long our Agent in Plymouth County, whose labors have been delayed and interrupted by ill health, has at length brought them to a close. From his extremely accurate and systematic report, it appears that he has visited, in all, 14,368 families, 1,191 of which were without a Bible. Of these latter, 756 were Roman Catholic, 40 foreign Protestant, and 385 American. The number of families who had unsuitable, or imperfect copies, was 547,—leaves often being wanting, or the print so small as to be scarcely legible to the owner.

He has sold 2,275 Bibles and 3,905 Testaments, and given 832 Bibles and 1,283 Testaments; making a total of 8,295 Bibles and Testaments put in circulation by him.

His receipts for sales amount to \$2,483 69, and the copies given to \$653 76.

It is believed that, by his faithful and painstaking endeavors, not a single dwelling or household in that County has been overlooked or neglected.

Mr. Jacob Hersey continues his visitation of Middlesex County. In addition to the 20 towns reported last year, he has explored 23 others; having visited 15,753 families, of which 2,982 were foreign. He has sold 1,026 Bibles and 1,665 Testaments, and given 589 Bibles and 1,242 Testaments. The severity of the times has decreased his sales, and increased his gratuitous distribution.

The city of Lowell has furnished him with a very interesting and important field, and he grate-

fully acknowledges the cheerful co-operation of its clergymen and laymen.

During his two years of service, he has visited about 25,000 families, and circulated 8,978 volumes.

In concluding our Report, your Committee would call special attention to the importance of increased private and personal effort, in the distribution of the Scriptures. Bible Committees have already been organized in a number of towns, and supplied with copies for sale and distribution from our Depository. Sufficient time has not yet elapsed to show the results of such a movement. There can be no doubt, however, that should the work be pursued with thoroughness, it will prove an economical and efficient auxiliary in furthering the great and good end we have in view.

The Lord has given us the Word—great be the company of them that publish it.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Forty-Ninth Annual Meeting of the BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS, was held in the upper vestry of the Central Church, Boston, on Monday, May 24, 1858. The Report of the Treasurer was read and accepted. The Annual Report of the Executive Committee was presented by the Chairman, and the reading thereof postponed to the public meeting.

The Officers of the Society, for the ensuing year, were elected.

The members of the Society then proceeded to the church, where the public services of the Anniversary were held.

The Scriptures were read, and prayer offered, by Rev. James B. Miles, of Charlestown.

Rev. NATHANIEL L. FROTHINGHAM, D. D., of Boston, Vice President, then delivered the following Address:

In coming together, so large a company, at the call of a Bible Society, you are doing honor to one of the noblest institutions of modern times. I say of modern times, for they are very modern; more recent than many in this audience are probably apt to consider. So late as the year 1777, there did not exist a single Bible Society, such as we now understand by that name, in any part of Christendom. In that very year, when the war of Independence was in the midst of its distresses, the American Congress passed a vote that 30,000 copies of the Scriptures should be printed for general circulation among our people. But, as this was too great an enterprise to be then undertaken, they ordered the importation of that number of copies through Holland,

a nation with which we were on the friendliest terms. This was a note-worthy and memorable act. It was a significant act, such as characterized our serious and sturdy fathers. It was a leading act, pointing to great things that were to be done afterwards. At that time, the population of these States was about three millions; and it was computed that only about four millions of Bibles were then circulating in the world.

This fact may seem very strange to us, familiar as we are with the immense arrangements, by which the sacred volume is now scattered over every part of the globe, and read in every language that is spoken among men. But we must remember how many obstacles there were in the way, and what a pressure of habit and prejudice had first to be lifted off. The old Romish church, brought up upon parchment and manuscript, always set its face steadfastly against the popular use of the printed Scriptures. Bibles might be seen chained to library shelves, instead of flying, as they now do, towards every inlet and harbor of the sea, and all the dwellings that lie farthest from the shore, "like doves to their windows." Even an excellent Protestant could write in his quaint style, that he was afraid "lest the small price of the Bible should lead to the small prizing of the Bible."

How vain this apprehension was, has been abundantly proved by the course of events. The first true Bible Society, devoted entirely to the distribution of the Scriptures, was founded in 1780. It had for its special object the soldiers and sailors of England, and was called, "The Naval and Military Bible Society." It was not till the very century we live in, in 1804, that the British and Foreign Bible Society was instituted. This was the great leader of many similar institutions, our own American Bible Society among the rest, only thirteen years afterwards. Wondrous enterprises, that aimed at nothing less than to send the Bible through every land, translated into every tongue.

That last thought is one of great interest, when we come to consider it. The Apostle Paul, in speaking of the gift of tongues on the day of Pentecost, that great Inauguration-day of the church, which, under the name of Whitsunday and other titles, was celebrated yesterday all over the Christian world,—refers to the "many kinds of languages in the world, none of them without signification." He does not undertake to compute their number. His Jewish countrymen, who were apt to compute from

their fancies rather than from their research, and whose figures of arithmetic were often but figures of speech, were accustomed to say that they must be seventy-two. They had some mystical reason for it. But the sum was far below the reality. There have been said to be as many as that spoken in our own cosmopolitan city of New York. The British and Foreign Bible Society in one of its reports,—and that not the last,—tells us that it had been the means of sending forth not less than forty-five millions of copies in a hundred and seventy languages. this is like repeating the marvel of Pentecost, enabling all nations and people to hear the Divine Word in their "own tongue wherein they were born." Truly, this does not look much like "small prizing of the Bible" by reason of its "small price" or no price, its unbounded multiplication and diffusion. On the contrary, a new word has lately been brought into our English speech, bibliolatry, worship of the Bible;—a long word, and meant to be a reproachful one. We may answer to that reproach: You at least imply by it that the Bible is extremely valued,—valued to idolatry. Grant that in some instances it may be used superstitiously, and that its letter may be worshiped while its spirit is overlooked. Still, the general reverence that is felt for it is justified—apart from all the outward claims that are called evidences, and in spite of all cavil and criticism—by the very constitution of human nature. For the Bible, that is now actually addressing the various tribes of men, each in its peculiar speech, is found also to address the human soul itself in what may be called its native language, the tongue wherein it is born. Let me try to illustrate this.

A man wishes to know whence he derives his being. He takes up his Bible, and the first word that meets him is: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." "He giveth breath to the people upon the earth, and spirit to them that walk therein." He examines this declaration; and behold! he finds in it his own tongue wherein he was born. It is so, he says; it must be so. A Being of unbounded knowledge, might and beneficence, must have produced this unbounded whole. This is enough for me. I give myself no further concern about the world's origin or my own:

Again, a man wishes to know what kind of being he has received. He is perplexed with it. How mean and how grand

it is! He feels himself small, when he considers his narrow limits and thousand-fold imperfections, his weakness and ignorance, and subjection to death. He feels himself great, when he contemplates the faculties that God has clothed him with. How to reconcile these two opposite views of his life? What is he to think of himself, so like the worms, so like the angels? The Bible replies to his doubts. "Ye are of more value than many sparrows." "God hath made man in his own image." "We are even his offspring." He examines these declarations also, and behold they are in his own tongue. It is so, he says; it must be so. I cannot confound myself with mouldering things and the lower creatures; I have impulses that are not compulsory. I have instincts that are not blind. I stand connected with a higher order of intelligences, and a state yet uncomprehended.

A man wishes to know the main object for which he should live. What is that, he asks, among so many objects? The Bible speaks: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God; that is the great commandment;—and love thy neighbor, for that is like unto it. Seek first the kingdom of truth and righteousness; and all else shall be added or not required. He examines the declaration; and behold! it is the native speech of his admonishing soul. It is so; it must be so. It is only when I have set my affections worthily, and done what is kind and right, that all has gone well with me, and I have found peace, and rejoiced that I was man.

A man wishes to know something about the mysterious trials of this life of his. Who distributes its portions of joy and sorrow? Who decides upon health and sickness, wealth and want, coming and going, life and death? Why does trouble seek out him, and pass by his neighbor's door? Why is it that success waits no better on desert, and the expectation of the innocent perishes? Then the Bible speaks: Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and though the chastening may for the present seem to be grievous, nevertheless afterward it yieldeth peaceable fruit. He examines this declaration, with the tears yet in his eyes perhaps, and behold! again his own language. Yes, it is so, he says; it must be so. These are the very words that I needed, but I dared not say them of myself. I will say

them now. A Divine Providence numbers the hairs of my head; and therefore I will not tremble, though I may have to lay it down upon sorrowful pillows, though it must bow itself to destiny, and be brought low in the grave.

And now man has another question to ask. It is the past that pains him, the unchangeable past. He is convicted of sin. And he asks how he can ever find his way back to the blessings he has forfeited and the repose he has lost. He cannot extricate himself from his troubled thoughts. The conscience-stricken cannot hold any encouraging dialogue with himself. He must be spoken to by another. And the Son of man speaks: "Come unto me, ye that are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." He listens to that assurance, heightened as it is by many other gracious assurances; all illustrated by such histories as that of the woman who bathed the feet of the Friend of sinners with her tears; and with such parables as that of the prodigal son. He has no need to examine this long. He lays it to his heart, and feels its atoning power.

There is one thing more that we desire to know,—O, how much! It was an old question, "If a man die, shall he live again?" And it is one of the youngest replies of scepticism and discouragement, "Who knoweth?" What is there for us, or is there anything for us, beyond the inheritance that we must relinquish so soon? What is to become of us when we are taken away from this world? Are we to pass into the vegetables, and the clouds, and the clods,—senseless all? Or are we to be the companions still of moral intelligences? Are our thoughts and affections, and will and hope, to terminate, because a little blood and air are tired of coursing through the gates of the heart? Or are we to be joined to what is kindred with us above? O that some one would tell us! O that any one could! The Bible now speaks, and it is with the very first authoritative word that was ever spoken on this great theme: "When the earthly house of this tabernacle is dissolved, there is a building of God, eternal in the heavens." "I am the Resurrection and the Life." "This corruptible shall put on incorruption, and this mortal immortality." We look at the testimony and embrace it. It is the tongue in which we were born. It is the language of our dearest, noblest, most earnest and most righteous wish. It is so.

It must be so. There are worlds elsewhere. We do "seek another country." "There remaineth a rest" for thy people, O Lord!

The Annual Report was read by Rev. George Richards, Chairman of the Executive Committee. The Report was accepted, and ordered to be printed.

Rev. L. R. Thayer, of Boston, was then introduced, and spoke as follows:

Much has been said and written, as well in seriousness as in jest, of the spirit of the present age. Close observers have combined with shrewd thinkers, to detect and define, if possible, what that is, which more than any thing else distinguishes the present from all preceding epochs of human history. With no design to aid such in their speculations, or to follow them in their researches or conjectures, we hesitate not to say, that one of the most striking—we might say the most marked—peculiarity in the moral aspect of the present age, is seen in its organizations of benevolent effort. Of the extent and rapid increase of such organizations we are hardly aware, until, in this month of buds and bloom, so fitly chosen for the purpose, these societies come up to this and other cities for their annual festivities and reorganization. And even then, we fail to see their extent, unless we regard these annually meeting societies as so many central suns around which revolve numerous others, of a kindred character, engaged in the same great purpose. To one who may pass, during this anniversary week, from meeting to meeting, and listen casually to the various speakers as they shall each present the claims of his particular cause, there might appear to be a great variety of interests and of conflicting claims.

But to the discerning and discriminating eye and ear of the Christian, there would appear, in great clearness, a beautiful unity in all this apparent variety; a sweet concord in the apparent conflict of interests. These Christian bands, though appearing to the casual observer to differ so widely, each from the other, all march under the same waving banner, inscribed with the motto, "All men are brethren." They all yield a cheerful obedience to the behests of the same Supreme Com-

mander, and are actuated by the same holy principle of supreme love to God.

While we thus cheerfully recognize this essential unity of purpose and interest in these Benevolent Associations, and their consequent intimate connection with each other, there is, however, a manifest propriety that this Society should lead in the religious festivities of the week, inasmuch as the work it performs is, and in the nature of the case, must be, the basis of whatever success may attend the efforts of all the others. It is in the Bible that all these streams of beneficence, which so abundantly water and adorn with verdure and with fruit our State and land, have their source. Without it, their channels become dry, or filled only with stagnant, putrid pools, that can send forth nothing but the malaria of disease and death.

But we are not here to dwell upon generalities. The demand of the age is for the practical. We turn, then, to the consideration of this practical question: Why should the Bible be placed in the hands of every one who can read it, or secure that it be read to them? What are the claims of this Society, upon the sympathy and support of the Christian public? This is a practical question; for, by a consideration of it, we would so see and feel the importance of the work, as to find in it renewed, if not new motives for its more energetic prosecution.

There has seldom, if ever, been a time in the history of civilization, when want has crept into so many dwellings and laid its hand upon so many persons, as in the last six months. The arm of industry has been palsied, and the streams of commercial prosperity have been closed up. The lank form of want has crossed many thresholds, for the first time, and caused a famine where plenty had always reigned. And we are confident there has never, in the history of the race, been a time when the cry of want was so promptly, so fully, or so cheerfully met. The great doctrine of our common brotherhood has been most practically acknowledged.

Can we not trace this broad, deep stream of benevolence, to the influence of the wide diffusion of the principles of God's word? It is this that kindles in the human heart a deep sympathy for human woe, and prompts to its relief. But while we cannot fail to see that those noble efforts which have distributed bread to the hungry, furnished shelter to the defenceless, and clothed in warmth the shivering limbs of poverty, have done much, we cannot fail also to see that these efforts have not done all a Christian heart would do. That loaf of bread will soon be consumed, that shelter must soon be vacated, these warm garments will soon be rags, and want will regain the position from whence he was driven. Of all these supplies we may say, as Christ said of the waters at Jacob's well, 'Whosoever partaketh of these shall want again.'

We would, by no means, think of filling an empty stomach with a copy of the Bible, or of clothing the naked with its unfolded sheets. But when the pressing want of the present has been relieved by other means, we would invoke the agency of this Society to place in that relieved family the bread of life, and would urge it upon the attention of its members. There would thus be furnished a supply for far more important than physical wants; there would be opened up a fountain of far higher than physical happiness; and there would be sown in that household those seeds of thrift, temperance and economy, which would effectually bar that door, for all the future, against the approach of want. We insist, that in no other way can the wants of the poor be so effectually, so really relieved, as by a wide and free circulation of the sacred Scriptures, and a kind but diligent inculcation of the principles they teach.

We might speak of the important influence of a general diffusion of the sacred volume upon the developing minds of the rising generation, many, if not most of whom, are found in the homes of the poor. It is easy to see the importance to the institutions of our country, that the Bible should be found, and exert its influence, in all those nurseries of our future citizens. might point with confidence to the Bible, as the corner-stone of every institution that adorns and blesses our nation—that does not degrade and disgrace it. We might speak of the hallowed influence the word of God breathes upon the domestic and social relations of man, in all their variety and complicity; and in looking abroad upon the nations of the earth, we could not fail to see, in the comparisons and contrasts that there meet us, the invaluable advantages of an every where present and open Bible. Nor can we fail to see that, in these days of partizan commotion, when governmental institutions tremble upon their bases, the eye of the patriot looks alone to the influence exerted by the sacred

word, to promote that forbearance among the ruled, and that integrity and wisdom among the rulers, in which stability and prosperity can alone be hoped for.

But, valuable as are the holy Scriptures, for promoting all these varied and vital interests of man in this life, and strong as are the reasons we thence derive for urging forward the work of this Society; yet all these fall into comparative insignificance, when viewed in connection with those considerations that present every man, woman and child before us, as a candidate for eternity—as possessed of an immortal nature, now on probation for the unchanging and unending destinies of that future, to which each hour of life is bearing them. All these other interests, of which we have spoken, are interests that find their boundaries in time, and will soon cease to affect those who are now affected by them. The merchant prince, and the ragged beggar boy, will soon lie down in the same dusty bed, and in a few years none will think to inquire what it was that distinguished them on earth. So deeply sensible are we of the brevity of life, and the consequent vanity of the things of earth, that we are not readily moved to costly sacrifices or strenuous endeavors in behalf of others, by considerations drawn from thence. out the idea of man's immortality, and human life will be counted of little worth, and happiness scarcely worth an effort.

But when the light of eternity glows upon us, and the well-being of an immortal spirit is seen to be invested in the work we have in hand, then it is, if we have any feelings of love to God, or regard for our fellow-men, that our every power will feel the quickening impulse, and a measure of that zeal that consumed the Master's life, will burn in the bosom of his followers.

Whatever may be our ideas of heaven, or wherever we may conceive it to be located, we can entertain no doubt that a certain type of moral character is, and necessarily must be, requisite to the enjoyment of its promised bliss. We do not, we cannot fail to see, that it is character, and not locality; internal condition, and not external circumstances, that constitute men blessed and happy. We have no doubt that in the Bible, and there alone, is delineated fully and clearly, that type of character so essential—there alone is the way to its attainment pointed out—and there alone is revealed that wonderful provision of divine mercy, by means of which guilty man may secure pardon

and reconciliation with God, and the renewal in righteousness of his corrupt nature. Here and here alone, are opened the gates of eternal love and mercy; from thence alone, shine forth the clear rays of eternal light and truth. Here speaks the mighty Ruler of the universe from his throne of judgment, in his law of purity and justice. Here, from his blood-stained cross, speaks the Redeemer, in tones of love and inviting mercy. Here speaks the Comforter, as with the soul-stirring truths of the written word, he whispers in the ear of the heart, and points the convicted soul to the atoning Lamb.

We enter, here, upon no discussion of what are the prospects, in the "land of the hereafter," of such as live and die where the light of revealed truth has never shone; but what we want to say, and what we would press home upon the hearts of all present, is, that a knowledge of the truths revealed in the Bible, is essential to the salvation of those in whose behalf this Society labors. There is no other pattern of a heavenly character, than the one here revealed; no other path to that bliss, made known; no other name than that of Jesus, by which we can be saved. This is the bread of life; without it, the soul will perish, and they who labor to scatter it abroad shall gather fruit unto life eternal. It is in this consideration that we find the true magnitude and exalted character of our work; as it is in the immortality of man, that we find his true dignity and worth.

View man only as a creature of time, and you inevitably sink into a low estimate of his life and happiness; so low, indeed, as to dry up all the streams of love and benevolent regards for him. But clothe him with his own inherent immortality, and look upon him in this life as in a state of probation for the life to come, and even the ragged child of want, that meets you in the streets, secures an interest in your heart that calls into exercise all the activity of a sanctified nature.

Such is a brief statement of some of the reasons we would urge upon the consideration of the philanthropist and the Christian, to interest him in the object of this Society. Nor in doing this, do we urge upon your attention an untried form of beneficence. A half century has passed since this Society was organized, and its foot-prints are found in the huts of the poor, and in the palaces of the rich; in the counting-room of the merchant, and in the work-shop of the mechanic; in our halls of educa-

tion, and in our houses of public entertainment; in our steamboat cabins, and upon all our sailing vessels that carry our commerce to the ends of the earth. Yea, and its record is on high, in the many rejoicing spirits that have received the true light through its instrumentality, and, following that light, have found their rest in heaven.

Rev. Samuel K. Lothrop, D. D., of Boston, was next introduced, and addressed the assembly as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT,—I rise in compliance with the request of one of your Committee, and to redeem a pledge made to a friend (Hon. Albert Fearing) who knows how hard it is for me to say No! to any thing he wishes me to do.

One theme only is appropriate to this occasion; but that theme is so vast, its relations are so varied, its importance so grand and incalculable, that one knows not where to begin to take it up. The Bible, its value, teachings, truths, hopes; its influence, efficacy, authority;—our duty to aid in the great and glorious work of its distribution,—who can speak adequately upon these topics?

Among those who hear me, I am confident there is no want of a substantial reverence for the Bible. A want of such reverence, an affectation of contempt and disregard for the Holy Scriptures, can no longer pass current as an evidence of a superior intellect, an enlarged, elevated and philosophic mind. The Bible has commanded the reverence of too many great minds; men of gigantic intellect, whom the world honors as the masters of learning and of thought, have expressed their faith in it with too firm and strong a conviction; at this moment it is exerting, on large portions of the civilized world, too deep and controlling an influence, to permit disbelief in it, or contemptuous criticisms upon it, to be received either as marks of genius or evidences of strong good sense. The Bible ever has and ever will come forth unharmed, and in renovated splendor, from any attack made upon it; and whatever evidences may be adduced to the contrary, I believe that could all the facts in the case be collected and presented before us at this hour, it would be admitted that we might apply to the power and progress of the Bible in the

world, its own beautiful description of the progress of the sun through the heavens. "It is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. Its going forth is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit unto the ends of it; and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof."

I would fain believe, therefore, that there is no want among us of a substantial reverence for the Bible, that we daily read some portions of its precious pages, and receive with devout and honest hearts its living and life-giving words.

But it may be doubted whether any of us justly appreciate the Bible, its extraordinary character, its immeasurable value. Mr. Buckminster, in one of the sermons in the second volume of his Discourses published many years after his death, expresses this thought. "Had I to choose," he says, "between the Bible and all other books, which should be destroyed, my choice would be instantly made. I would give all other books to the flames, and hold on the Bible as the life and light of the world." I quote from memory and may not have given his exact words; but this is the thought, expressed quite as strongly, I am confident, as I have expressed it.

Mr. Buckminster was not simply an eloquent preacher, whose fame yet dwells in our churches, while his memory is fresh in the hearts of all who ever knew him, he was also a distinguished scholar,—a general as well as theological scholar,—as deeply read in all the learning of the world as in the learning of the Bible. Few men were ever better qualified to form and express an opinion upon this point. Are we not ready to subscribe to his opinion? What other book could take the place of the Bible, be to us what that is, give us what that gives us. Reduced to the alternative, compelled to make the choice, where could we lay our hands upon a volume, or upon any number of volumes, that would make good what we should lose were the Bible destroyed, and all that the Bible teaches blotted out from our minds and hearts. We cannot find such a volume or volumes. To destroy the Bible would be like striking out the sun from the intellectual and moral firmament; one by one, the stars that borrow their light from that sun would grow pale and dim, and man be left to grope in darkness for that path which is now bright and clear, and open to his progressive steps. Leave the Bible, and though all other books be destroyed, there stills remains a foundation, upon which the human mind

can rear the superstructure of faith and knowledge; a fountain from which it can be fed with the nourishment it needs and craves.

The Bible comes from no vain and frivolous thought. It is no casual product of the human intellect; it is a providential book, made what it is, by the interposition, in some way, of the universal and almighty Mind. No other supposition seems adequate to explain the contents of the Bible, the position it has held and now holds, and the influence it has exerted and still exercises over the most enlightened and cultivated nations of the earth. That influence is deep and varied, not confined to religion, to theology, but touching more or less directly all the departments of life. Jurisprudence is largely indebted to it, and Christian nations find in the Bible their best statute-book. Many of the highest political principles and much of the best political wisdom of our times dates back to the old Hebrew commonwealth. Poetry is largely indebted to it, and some of the finest passages of our finest poets are but successful imitations of what David and the Prophets have uttered of old; and many human philosophies differing widely from each other, harmonize in this; that in their great ideas they are all simply paraphrases of some deep and significant text of Scripture.

All that is highest and grandest in human thought, tenderest in human affections, holiest, most devout, reverential and heavenly in human aspirations, finds its germ and its nurture in the Bible. This is easily explicable upon the supposition that the Bible is specially a providential book; that in some way—(we need not be curious and exact in our theory of inspiration, or attempt to determine, with metaphysical precision, what we cannot adequately comprehend, viz., the manner and the extent to which God may illumine the human mind)—in some way, the hand of God, the mind, the wisdom of God, are in that book more directly, more distinctly than in any other. Deny this—say that the Bible is a mere chance, casual production of the human mind, with which the providence of God is no more concerned than it is with the thousands of volumes that annually issue from the public press—and you find it difficult to explain, you cannot explain, either its contents or its influence. Not its contents. Its authors, from Moses to the Apostles of our Lord, were Jews; and the Jews were a small, circumscribed nation, inhabiting the mountainous regions of Palestine, despised by their neighbors, and shut out from general intercourse with mankind. How came the Jews, under these circumstances, to attain to such riches of divine wisdom and truth? Where could individuals of this people get power to produce a book, superior to all others—a book that should outlast all others—a book so full of interest, instruction, guidance, comfort to man, that the most enlightened individuals and nations of the earth receive it, cleave to it, and obey it, as containing the clearest declarations of the will and law of God? Admit divine interposition, the inspiring and overruling providence of God, and the thing is explained. Deny this, and you have an effect without a cause—you have a great moral miracle staring you in the face, while you deny the power that could alone have produced it.

And as we cannot explain the contents, so neither can we explain the influence of the Bible, upon the exclusion of the special interposition and providence of God. That influence has been, and is, great beyond that of all other books. The infidel must admit this. Take all the other books that sages, philosophers, poets, historians, moralists, have written—how few of them have ever exercised a broad, deep, lasting influence upon mankind! How few of them have had any marked effect in moulding the manners, morals, habits of thought and action of a single generation, much less of successive generations! What multitudes of these books are forgotten, laid aside—are at this moment as if they had never been! The world has outgrown them, and passed on, leaving them to moulder amid the dust of forgotten things. Not so with the Bible. That still survives, and the strongest and deepest mark on the chart of the earth's history is that made by its influence upon the nations receiving That still survives, and suffices for the soul, because its eternal truths have a divine charm for the heart, and beget a deep conviction in the intellect of every generation—because its thought is always in advance of the highest thought of humanity; and all the interests of mankind, temporal and spiritual, are there met by truths and instructions calculated to promote them. Deny the inspiration and the providence of God in this permanent, all-pervading, ever-increasing influence of the Bible, and you cast about in vain for a satisfactory explanation of it. Well, therefore, may we reverence the Bible, and cleave to it, as possessing and exerting, above all other books, the influences that are to regenerate the world, and sanctify unto eternal life the individual heart.

But it may be said, that what I have offered only shows the Bible to be a very extraordinary book, but does not invest it with any authority—does not entitle it to be received and honored as containing the records of express divine revelation. Why should we receive it as containing such records? Give us the reasons for its being a divine revelation. Mr. President, the answer to that question involves a profound argument, into which all the wisdom and learning of the world may be made to enter, and to lend their aid to its support. It would be foolish to attempt to set forth that argument here; but I wish to present one or two simple considerations, successive steps in the argument, by which a person of ordinary culture and sense may be satisfied that the Bible is the revealed will of God.

- 1. A divine revelation is antecedently probable. Nature, the outward universe, in all its glory, beauty, harmony, magnificence, is a manifestation, a revelation of God. "The things that are visible have at all times declared the things that are invisible." But man needs something more than nature teaches; something more direct, specific, authoritative. So great is this need, that we say, a divine revelation is antecedently probable. We may expect to find it somewhere among men; and, judging from the analogy of nature, which is marked by epochs, in which the creative energy of divine power has been specially put forth to give new forms of beauty and use to material things, and whose great law is that of small beginnings leading to great results and a progressive plan, I maintain that we should expect to find, in this revelation, a series of dispensations, the one preparing the way for the other—each of them marked, as epochs in the natural world evidently have been, by special miraculous manifestations of divine power; and each of them, also, communicated originally to a few persons, and thence spreading, through human instrumentalities under divine Providence, farther and farther, from mind to mind, from heart to heart, gradually illuminating the world, and elevating and sanctifying the race.
- 2. A divine revelation, progressive in its plan, consisting of a series of dispensations, being thus antecedently probable, it is also

antecedently probable that this revelation will be communicated in human language, and transmitted and perpetuated through a written record. Some such book as the Bible—a book containing a history of the facts and circumstances under which the revelation was communicated, and the instructions, truths and testimonies of that revelation—some such book I should expect to find somewhere in the world, because, as man and the world are constituted, this is and would be the only satisfactory mode of transmitting and perpetuating the revelation. There are two other prominent modes that come up to our thoughts, but both are objectionable. One is tradition, oral communication from mouth to mouth, from father to son, from generation to generation. But tradition is liable to failure, perversion and abuse. The truths that come to us through centuries of oral tradition, can never come to us with any certainty or authority. The other is by a symbol, a form, a rite, as when St. Paul tells the early Christians that in observing the Lord's supper, "they show forth the Lord's death." The rite of the supper is an evidence, a testimony to the fact of the Saviour's death; and through that, as a symbol, some of the great facts and ideas of the gospel might have been transmitted from age to age, from generation to generation.

But as a sole dependence or chief instrument, a symbol is objectionable. It is not, perhaps, liable to failure, but it is liable to abuse and perversion. The symbol may be made to mean, to teach much more or much less than was originally designed. The Roman Catholic Church, in the influence and authority it gives to tradition, and in its mode of observing the Lord's supper, and the ideas it has associated with that rite, presents evidences and illustrations of the inadequacy of both tradition and symbol to communicate and perpetuate truth. Both are inadequate, unsafe instruments; and when once they have become corrupted and perverted from their original significance, there is no means of reformation, if there be no record to which an appeal can be made. A record is undoubtedly liable to misconstruction, to misinterpretation; but then it abides and becomes authoritative, because it does abide. It can be studied, and restudied, from age to age. Through this study, errors can be corrected, misinterpretations rectified, till at last, in regard to all that is important, the truth opens clear upon the enlarged and

enlarging mind of man. Here are two points settled. First, the antecedent probability of a divine revelation; second, the antecedent probability that the revelation will be in a record authentic and reliable, containing its history, instructions and truths.

3. The Bible—the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments—claims to be such a record. I am predisposed to receive it, because I expect to find some such record, and some such book in the world. I do receive it; and every man, it seems to me, may receive it, with the faith that shall give a divine efficacy and force to its teachings, by two simple steps or processes, on two simple considerations. (1) Take the Scriptures and travel back through the centuries, to the time when, if they were in existence at all, they must have been contemporary history, and when, if they were not true, the fact would have been made manifest, and you find their existence and their truth recognized by those who would have recognized neither, except that they were in existence and were true. This argument applies with impregnable force to the Scriptures of the New Testament. Go back to the first century of the Christian era, and you find that wherever there was a Christian church, there were these Scriptures; wherever there was a Christian teacher, preacher, or writer, there were these Scriptures quoted from, referred to, appealed to, by those who could easily have ascertained their falsehood or forgery, had these qualities attached to them, and who had every motive to sift that question to the bottom. (2) Take the Scriptures and compare their contents, as matters of fact and history, with all that you can learn of the world outside of these Scriptures, and you find an additional confirmation of their truth. For instance, to bring the argument to its point at once, you find in the world the Jewish people and the Christian church. The Scriptures explain the origin, character and condition of both the Jewish people and the Christian church, satisfactorily. Deny these Scriptures, set them aside as not reliable, wanting in genuineness and authenticity, not to be received or credited, and then attempt to explain these two great facts—the existence and condition of the Jewish people and the Christian church—and you will find it as difficult as it would be to deny the early colonial settlement of this country and the

American revolution, and then attempt to explain and account for the rise of this great American republic.

I receive the Bible, and believe it to be a providential book, specially and peculiarly so, because here are two great facts outstanding in the world, the Jewish People and the Christian Church; and it is impossible to explain and account for either of these facts upon the supposition that the Bible, in any of its essential particulars, is forged, fabricated, false, and unworthy of credit. It is true—the record of God's special dealings with the children of men—full of a divine wisdom and truth, which, in all its clearness and power, could have come to the human mind only from the divine, almighty, omniscient Mind. Let us so receive it, and cleave to it. Let us so use it, and help to diffuse it. Let it be the light and hope of our hearts—as it is, and must be, the light and hope of the world.

There it stands, the recorded declaration of the divine will, the recorded evidence of the divine interposition, the source of truth, of right, of duty, of hope to the world. The skeptic may attack it, the scoffer may sneer at it, the blasphemer may ridicule it; but these could as easily pull down the sun, or overturn the great dome of the heavens, as overturn the authority of the Bible, or make it a despised, rejected, obsolete book. There it stands; and as time rolls on, and it is more and more diffused, more and more read, better and better interpreted, it will have more and more influence till it impregnates all human thought, custom, legislation, conduct, with its immutable truths, and its divine spirit. Among all the works of Christian benevolence that appeal to us, there is none nobler, none more Christian in its character, more sublime in its aim, than that which seeks to disseminate everywhere the Bible, translate it into all languages, send it to all lands, scatter it broadcast over the world. In that great work let us persevere with increased and ever-increasing

The Rev. R. S. Storrs, Jr., D. D., of Brooklyn, N. Y., made the closing Address. His theme was, The Bible as a Book;—the peculiar adaptedness of such a form of Revelation to the many ends designed to be answered. With rare point and directness he unfolded his subject, holding

the attention of his audience, and leaving them more than ever impressed with the wisdom and goodness of God in thus accommodating himself to the varied conditions and characters of men, in their successive generations. We regret that the speaker could not furnish his Address for publication.

After the usual Doxology, and the Benediction, the meeting was dissolved.

CONSTITUTION.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

Sec. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Brown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

- SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal, which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.
- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.

Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

BY - LAWS.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

ARTICLE 1.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice President, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice President and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository,—each of said Committees to consist of three persons.

ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository annually, four copies of the Common Bible, or the value thereof, (1,00,) in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the current, not for past years.

MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

BY VIRTUE OF A CONTRIBUTION OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

*Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. Albree, John, Beston. Albro, Rev. John A., Cambridge. Albro, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Albro, Miss Annie E. Alden, Almira S. C., Fozbore'. Andrews, Artemas P., Fitchburg. Andrews, C. L., Besten *Appleton, Samuel, Boston. Appleton, William, " Atwood, John W., Chatkam. Babcock, Mrs. Nancy, Boston. Baker, Mrs. Eleanor J. W., Dorchester. Barber, Martin, Skerbern Barnard, William F., Marlbore. Barnes, William, Bartlett, Thomas, Boston. Bayley, Robert, Newburyport. Beal, Alexander, Boston. Beebe, James M. Beebe, Mrs. James M. " Beecher, Rev. William H., No. Brookfield. Bolknap, Miss Martha M., Framingham. Blanchard, Miss Frances C., Groton. Bodwell, Rev. J. C., Framingkam. Boston. *Bond, George Bowers, Luke K. Bowers, Mrs. Cara H. Brackett, James, Quincy. Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgetown. Brant, Anron, South Reading. Brewer, Cyrus, Dorchester. Briggs, Rev. William T., Princeton. Bromfield, Elizabeth, Boston. Brooks, Peter C. Brooks, Peter C. Groton. Brown, Joseph, Bulkley, Mrs. Catharine F. "Butler, Mrs. Jane D. Cady, Rev. Daniel R., West Cambridge. Cady, Mrs. Harriet S. Capen, Mrs. Charles, Framingham. Capen, Miss C. Elizabeth, Carpenter, Catharine E., Fozbore'. Carpenter, Daniel, Chase, Hezekiah A, Lynn. Child, Miss Lucy, Thetford, Vt. Choate, David, Topefield. Clap, James, Dorchester. Clap, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Clapp, John C. Clark, James G., Andover. Clark, John L. Clark, Jonathan, Winckester. Clark, Oliver R. Clark, Miss Nelly, Sherbern. Clark, Rev. Rufus W., Brooklyn, N. Y. Clary, Mrs. S. S., Askland. *Cobb, Richard, Boston. Cobb, Jacob, Abington. *Codman, Charles R. Besten. Codman, Mrs. Catharine,

Conn, Horace, Woburn. Coolidge, Joseph, Bosten. Coolidge, Luwell, Sherburn. Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Curtis, Abner, East Abington. Cushman, George H., North Bridgewater. Cutter, Stephen, Winchester. Cutter, Stephen H. Damon, Albert P., Reading. Dana, Sumuel, Boston. Dana, Charles B., Brookline. Dane, John H. Davis, Alvah M., Haverkill. Davis, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Northbore'. Denham, Rev. George, Barre. Denham, Mrs. Clara D. Dix, Mrs. Elijah, Boston. Dodge, Rev. John, Harvard. Dudge, Mrs. Ann S. Dodge, Mrs. J. M. C., Andover. *Dorr, John, Boston. *Dow, Josiah, *Dowse, Edward, Dedham. Dunn, Edward H., Boston, Dutch, Elizabeth M. " Dyer, Rev. E. Porter, Hingkam. Eager, William, Eastburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, Eaton, Eben, Framingham.
Eaton, Miss Martha W., Fitchburg. Euton, William, Boston. Eaton, William J., Westboro'. *Eliot, Samuel, Buston. Eliot, Samuel A. *Elwell, Robert, Emery, Mrs. Harriet, North Weymouth. Everett, Edward, Beston Farnsworth, Mrs. Abel, Groton. Farwell, Stephen T., Cambridge. Fay, Cyrus, Westboro'. Boston. Fearing, Albert, Fearing, Mrs. Albert, "Ford, Rev. George, East Falmouth. Ford, Thomas A., Boston.
Ford, Thomas A., North Bridgewater. Ford, Mrs. Eliza C. Fosdick, Charles, Groton. Fosdick, Frederick, Fordick, Samuel W. Fosdick, Miss Mary, Francis, Ebenezer, Boston. Furber, Rev. Daniel L., Newton. Furber, Mrs. Maria B. Gale, Rev. Wakefield, Reckport. Gale, Mrs. Wakefield, Gale, Justin Edwards, Garrette, Rev. Edmund Y., Millbury. Garrette, Mrs. Franzenia W. 44
*Gibbs, Mrs. Mary, Beston. Gilman, Miss Rebecca I., Bradford. Gordon, Solomon J., Besten. Gordon, Mrs. Rebecca, "

Gott, J. R., Rockport. *Gray, Francis C., Beston. *Gray, Henry, Gray, Horace, Boston. Gray, John C. Green, J. S. Copley Greenwood, Mrs. Sully K., Sherbern. *Grew, John, Boston Hall, Mrs. Joseph F., Groton. *Hammatt, Mrs. Mary, Beston. Hammond, Rov. William B., Braintree. tiuminond, Mrs Louise M. Hardwick, Thomas, Quincy. Hatch, Benjamin, East Falmouth. Hawen, Cynthia, Wrentham. Hayward, Elian, Braintres. Hayward, Paul, Ashby. Headley, Rev. P. C., Greenfield. Heard, John, Ipswick. Hersey, Jacob, Fozbero'. *Higginson, Stephen, Jr., Boston. Hildreth, Mrs. Mary R., Groton. *Hill, Henry, Boston Hill, Jotham, Woburn *Holmer, R-v. Abiel, Cambridge. Holmes, Miss E. A., Andover. Homer, Charles W., Cambridge. Hooker, George B., Sherburn. Hunper, Robert, Boston. Hoppin, Rev. James M., Salem. Hovey, George O., Boston. *How, James, Boston Howard, Cary, North Bridgewater. How, Frederick, Danvers. *Howe, John, *Bosten* Howes, Collins, Chatham. Hoyt, Mrs. Mariu, Framingham. Hulbert, Charles, Boston. Humphrey, Daniel, North Weymouth. *Hyslop, David, Boston. Jackson, James, Jackson, Patrick T. " Jephson, Miss C. R., Brookline. Johnson, Mrs. Emma E., Bradford. Johnson, Mrs. S. W., Farmington, N. H. Joy, Mrs. Abigail, Boston. Keep, N. C. Keith, Azza B, North Bridgewater. Keith, Charles Kerr, Robert W., Fozboro'. Kerr, Jane K. Kette le, Jacob Q., Boston. Kimball, David, Bradford. Kingman, Miss Sarah, Boston. *Knowles, Rev. James D. " Knox, Mrs. S., Rock Island, Ill. Lamson, Edwin, Boston. Lamson, Mrs. Edwin, " Lane, Richmond J., East Abington. Langworthy, Rev. Isaac P., Chelsea. Larkin, Lydia E., St. Anthony, M. T. *Lawrence, Amos, Boston. Ana, Lawrence, Lawrence, Mrs. M. A. Lawrence, Mrs. Nancy T., Carlisle. Leach, Simeon, Stoughton. Leavitt, Mrs. Elizabeth G., Boston. Lefavour, Issacher, Beverly. Leland, Calvin J., Natick. Leonard, Eliza, Fozboro'. Leonard, James M., Bridgewater. Livermore, George, Cambridge. *Locke, Ephraim, Boston. Locke, Miss Mary O., Bradford. Loomis, Rev. E., Littleton. Lowell, Rev. Charles, Beston. Lumb, William, Lyman, Rev. George, Sutton.

Manning, Edward W., Woburn. Marsh, E. J., Groton. *Marston, William, Boston. *McKean, William, *McLean, Mrs. Ann, " Means, Rev. John O., Rezbury. Means, Mrs. John O. Mossenger, Miss Eliza, Fitchburg. Mills, Rov. C. L., North Bridgewater. Mills, Mrs. Rebecca B. Mixter, Mrs. Fanny L., Boston. Mixter, Mrs. Mary R., Hardwick. Mixter, Mrs. S. E., Rock Island, Ill. Moore, Rev. George, Andover. Moors, Rufus, Groton. Mordough, Rev. John H., Hamilton. Morley, Rev. S. B., Attleboro'. Morse, Charles N , Fexboro'. Morse, Miss Emily A., Bradford. Morse, Henry, Natick. Munger, Rev. Theodore T., Dorckester. Murray, Rev. James O., South Danvers. Murray, Mrs Julia R. Nason, Rev Elius, Natick. *Newell, Montgomery, Boston. Nightingule, Rev. Crawford, Groton. Norcross, Josiah, South Reading. Nourse, Daniel, West Medicay Noyes, Alva, North Bridgewater. Odlin, Mrs. E. T., Ezeter, N. H. Ordway, Aaron L., New York city. Ordway, Miss Charlotte, Bradford. Packard, Rev. D. Temple, Campello. Paine, Mrs. Sarah M., Holden. *Palmer, Rev. Stephen, Needkam. *Parker, John, Parker, Mrs. Sarah, Boston. *Parkman, Rev. Francis, *Parkman, 8amuel, 44 66 Parkman, Mrs. Sarah, *Parsons, Gorham, *Parsons, William, Partridge, Joseph, Holliston. Patrick, Rev. Henry J., Bedford. Peckham, Hubbard, Peterskam. *Perkins, James, Boston. *Perkins, James, Jr. *Perkins, Thomas H. Perley, Jacob, South Danvers. Peters, Edward D., Boston Pettee, Miss Eliza J., Fozboro'. Phillips, Mrs. Sally, Boston. *Phillips, William, "Pickard, Rev. Daniel W., Groveland. Pierpont, Rev. John, Medford.
Pond, Almira W., South Malden.
Pond, John P., Beston.
Pond, Mrs. Nancy, Medway.
Porter, Samuel S., Winchester. Pratt, Cornelius, North Weymouth Pratt, Galen, North Bridgewater. Pratt, Norton, Braintree. *Prescott, William, Boston, Prince, Rev. J. M., Georgetown. Prince, Mrs. Sarah B. Proctor, Thorndike, South Danvers. Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth, Lawrence. Rice, Mrs. Henry A. Rich, Rev. A. B., Beverly. Richardson, Benjamin P., Boston. Richardson, Luther, Winchester. Richardson, Sumner, *Ritchie, Andrew, Jr., Boston. Robbins, Andrew, Groton. *Robbins, Edward H., Boston. Roberts, Rev. Jacob, East Medway. Roberts, Mrs. Mary A. Robinson, H. W., North Bridgewater.

Rockwood, John, Groton. *Rogers, Rev. William M., Boston. Sawtell, Ephraim, Groton. *Salisbury, Samuel, Boston. Sargent, L. M. Scudder, Charles, Selfridge, Thomas O. Shattack, Andrew, Groton. Shaw, Mrs. Hannah, Boston. Sheldon, Rev. Luther, Westboro'. Sheldon, Mrs. Sarah H. Shiverick, Miss Maria L., Campello. *Sigourney, Andrew, Boston. Sigourney, Henry, ** lack, Ruggles, Boston. Smith, Rev. Edward P., Pepperell. Smith, Rev. Matson M., Brookline. Smith, Mrs. Matson M. Smith, Richard, South Danvers. Smith, Mrs. Charlotte, " *Smith, Samuel, Boston. Snow, Mrs. Caroline, Newton. Stoddard, L. T., Brookline. Stone, Rev. Andrew L. Boston. Stone, Mrs. Matilda F. Sumner, Mrs. H. H., Fozboro'. Tappan, John, Boston. Teele, Rev. Albert K., Milton. Teele, Mrs. Cornelia C. " Temple, Mark M., Reading. Thatcher, Mary Ludlow, Middlebore'. Thayer, Amasa, Braintree. Thayer, Ira, Thayer, Mrs. Lilla, Torrey, Miss Elizabeth L., South Weymouth. Trask, Mrs. A. H., Manchester. Tucker, Rev. Elijah W., Lebanon, Ct. Tucker, Mrs. Hannah W. Tucker, Jesse, Milton.

Tucker, William, Dorchester. Tuttle, Miss Sarah, Andover. Tuttle, Thomas, Littleton. Twichell, John M., Fitchburg. Tyler, Jerome W., Boston. Vose, William H., Fitchburg. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. *Walley, Samuel H., Beston. Ward, Artemas, Boston. Welch, John, Weld, James, Wells, Mrs. Martha D., Northboro'. Wendell, Mrs. Catharine, Boston. Whitcomb, Louis, East Randolph. Whitcomb, Reuben, Harvard. Whitcomb, Reuben, Jr. " Whitcomb, Mrs. Abby F. " Whitcomb, Mrs. Louisa D. Whitcomb, Miss Mary M. *White, James, Bostun. White, Josiah, Petersham. Whitney, Charles H., Fitchburg. Whitney, Mrs. Permelia V., Peterskam. *Wigglesworth, Thomas, Boston. Wilcox, Rev. William H., Reading. Wild, Daniel, Boston. Wilson, Rev. Thomas, Stoughton. Winthrop, Robert C., Boston. *Winthrop, Thomas L. Withington, Otis, Brookline. Woodbury, Simon J., Sutton. Wood, Elizabeth C., Fozboro'. Woods, Miss Abbie Wheeler, *Malden*. Woods, Joseph Wheeler, Boston. Woods, Samuel H. Wolcott, William, Danvers. *Worthington, William, Boston. Wiley, Mrs. Ann E., South Reading. Wyman, William G., Fitchburg.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

RECEIPTS FROM MAY 1, 1857, TO MAY 1, 1858.

SUFFOLK COUNTY.

Boston,	Society of	Rev. I	Эт. 🛦	dams,	Esse	x St	reet,	•	•	•	\$ 247	74
66	66	Rev. 1	deser:	. Blag	gden	and ?	Mann	ing,	Old 8	outh	, 77	42
66	44	Rev. I		_	_			•	•	•		88
66	44	Rev. 1	Mr. F	lichar	ds, 2	90 (of wh	ich :	\$ 20,	by		
		an	indivi	dual,	to	const	itute	Mn	s. R	BV.		
		Geor	ge Ri	chard		. ¥.)	; G. 1	R. Fie	ke, S	5;	95	00
66	66	Rev. M	År. Si	nith,	Shav	vmut	Ave	ue,	•	•	62	00
66	44	Rev. 1	fr. St	one, l	Park	Stree	et,	•	•	•	183	
44	Bowdoin			_			•	•	•	•		75
44	Phillips (• -	oston		•	•		78
46	Bromfield			_	-			•	•	•		74
66	North Ru				-			•	h.	•		25
66	David M.			•		_p			,			00
66	George L		•	ı. (1 I	. x .)	١ .	•	•	_	•		00
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	5.)		•			•	•			•	176	65
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46	Second 1		•	•	•		•		•	•		38
Tawren	ce, Centra		gatio	nal Ci	hure	h a nd	Soci	etv.	•	•	24	
	n, Society	_	•					_	1 1	M.		-
	•	· John			_	•					97	KΛ

Newbury, Society of Rev. Dr. Withington, Miss Betsey Col-		
man, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
Newburyport, Society of Rev. Mr. Fiske,	53	20
Rowley, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.) .	55	00
Salem, South Congregational Church and Society,	40	75
West Newbury, Second Congregational Church and Society, .	10	54
	\$ 750	65
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.		
Ashby, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 22	00
Assabet, A friend, \$1; do. \$1; do. \$1;	4	00
Bedford, Congregational Church and Society,	17	11
Boxboro', Congregational Church and Society,	1	00
Cambridgeport, Elizabeth Harlow,	5	00
Concord, Union Bible Society, (4 L. M. A. B. S.)	120	00
Framingham, Hollis Evangelical Church and Society,	25	50
Groton, Union Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	36	08
Holliston, Congregational Church and Society,	50	00
Hopkinton, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.		
in part,)	17	00
" Levi Bicknell, \$1; Sabbath school scholar, \$1 20;	2	20
Lincoln, First Congregational Church and Society,	13	00
Littleton, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	20	00
Lowell, John Street Church and Society, \$27 05; a lady, (1		
L. M. A. B. S.) \$30;	57	05
Marlboro', Union Congregational Church and Society,	26	00
Newton, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	40	00
Reading, Bethesda Church,	21	75
Sherborn, Female Reading Society,	20	00
Shirley, Congregational Church and Society,	4	00
South Reading, Congregational Church and Society,	18	00
Sudbury, Congregational Church and Society,	13	00
Tewksbury, Congregational Church and Society,	32	26
Townsend, Congregational Church and Society,	21	88
West Cambridge, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,	48	25
Westford, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,		55
Wilmington, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part	لم) 10	00
Woburn, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	43	21
	\$ 692	84
WORCESTER COUNTY.		
Fitchburg, Calvinistic Congregational Church and Society, .	\$ 53	60
Harvard, Congregational Church and Society,	48	=
Leominster, Congregational Church and Society,		55
Lunenburg, Evangelical Church and Society,	_	85
Southboro', Pilgrim Congregational Church and Society,	17	
	41	-4

Templeton, Society of Rev. Mr. Sabin, a friend,	5 00
Upton, Mrs. Lydia Fiake,	1 00
Uxbridge, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	40 00
Westminster, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A.	
B. s. in part,)	27 40
Whitinsville, Congregational Church and Society's Collections,	
(1 L. M. A. B. S.)	146 61
Winchendon, First Parish,	22 11
" North, Congregational Church and Society, .	29 09
, 5 5	
	\$ 406 51
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY.	
Amherst, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 29 41
Belchertown, Benevolent Association,	<i>5</i> 0 00
Hadley, Second Congregational Church and Society,	41 00
	\$ 120 41
HAMPDEN COUNTY.	4 120 XI
HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY Mr. James Brewer, Springfie	eld Treas.
	_
Donations, \$812 41; less \$100 41, credited to Bible account,	\$ 712 41
FRANKLIN COUNTY.	
FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY Mr. William Elliot, Greenfie	eld, Treas.
Ashfield, Gentlemen's Association, \$8 79; ladies' do. \$11 77;	\$ 20 56
" Second Congregational Church and Society,	
	•
5 0	26 16
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Bible Society, Bible Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Deerfield, South, Monument Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00 18 00
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00 18 00 20 56
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00 18 00 20 56 30 60
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hawley, Second Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00 18 00 20 56 30 60 2 00
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Deerfield, South, Monument Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hawley, Second Congregational Church and Society, Bast, Congregational Church and Society, Bast, Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00 18 00 20 56 30 60 2 00 13 00
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Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hawley, Second Congregational Church and Society, East, Congregational Church and Society, Heath, Congregational Church and Society, Leverett, Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00 18 00 20 56 30 60 2 00 13 00 8 73 15 32
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hawley, Second Congregational Church and Society, Best, Congregational Church and Society, Heath, Congregational Church and Society, Leverett, Congregational Church and Society, Montague, Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00 18 00 20 56 30 60 2 00 13 00 8 73 15 32 30 01
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Cerefield, South, Monument Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hawley, Second Congregational Church and Society, Bast, Congregational Church and Society, Heath, Congregational Church and Society, Leverett, Congregational Church and Society, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, Montague, First Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, Orange, First Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00 18 00 20 56 30 60 2 00 13 00 8 73 15 32
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Cerefield, South, Monument Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hawley, Second Congregational Church and Society, East, Congregational Church and Society, Heath, Congregational Church and Society, Leverett, Congregational Church and Society, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, Orange, First Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, Shelburne, Legacy of the late John Andrews, by J. A. and E.	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00 18 00 20 56 30 60 2 00 13 00 8 73 15 32 30 01 60 00
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hawley, Second Congregational Church and Society, Bast, Congregational Church and Society, Heath, Congregational Church and Society, Leverett, Congregational Church and Society, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, Orange, First Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, Shelburne, Legacy of the late John Andrews, by J. A. and E. Andrews, (3 L. M. A. B. S.)	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00 18 00 20 56 30 60 2 00 13 00 8 73 15 32 30 01 60 00
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Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hawley, Second Congregational Church and Society, Bast, Congregational Church and Society, Heath, Congregational Church and Society, Leverett, Congregational Church and Society, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, Shelburne, Legacy of the late John Andrews, by J. A. and E. Andrews, (3 L. M. A. B. S.) Falls, Congregational Church and Society, Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00 18 00 20 56 30 60 2 00 13 00 8 73 15 32 30 01 60 00 90 00 4 57 40 00
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, "Bible Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hawley, Second Congregational Church and Society, Bast, Congregational Church and Society, Leverett, Congregational Church and Society, Leverett, Congregational Church and Society, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, Shelburne, Legacy of the late John Andrews, by J. A. and E. Andrews, (3 L. M. A. B. S.) "Falls, Congregational Church and Society, Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society, Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society, Warwick, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00 18 00 20 56 30 60 2 00 13 00 8 73 15 32 30 01 60 00 90 00 4 57 40 00 11 00
Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Bible Society, Bible Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hawley, Second Congregational Church and Society, Bast, Congregational Church and Society, Heath, Congregational Church and Society, Leverett, Congregational Church and Society, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, Shelburne, Legacy of the late John Andrews, by J. A. and E. Andrews, (3 L. M. A. B. S.) Falls, Congregational Church and Society, Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society,	26 16 9 75 22 33 24 72 78 48 70 00 18 00 20 56 30 60 2 00 13 00 8 73 15 32 30 01 60 00 90 00 4 57 40 00

NORFOLK COUNTY.

Dedham, Society of Rev. Dr. Burgess,	\$ 82	00
Dorchester, Second, Congregational Church and Society,		
\$167 20; class in Sabbath school, \$2 05;	169	
" Village, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M	•	12
Foxboro', Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.) 47	85
Franklin, First Congregational Church and Society,	. 50	00
Medway Village, Congregational Church and Society, \$21 31;		
a friend, 23 cts.; Mrs. M. A. Washburn and chil-		
dren, \$1;	22	54
" East, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	58	43
Milton, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.	31	00
Needham, West, Society of Rev. Mr. Baker, \$10 50; less \$3 on		
Bible account,	7	50
Randolph, East, Second Congregational Church and Society, .	12	00
Roxbury, Eliot Church, \$100 65; less \$15, on Bible account, .		65
" Jamaica Plain, Baptist Church,		25
West Roxbury, South Evangelical Church and Society, (2 L. M.		
A. B. S.)	80	00
Weymouth, South, Congregational Church and Society,		00
Weymouth, Congregational Charen and Society,		
	\$ 674	59
BRISTOL COUNTY.		
Mansfield, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 18	00
Rehoboth, Congregational Church and Society,	•	50
Taunton, Winslow Congregational Church and Society,		04
Zumijon, wimiow comprepational character and cooledy,		
	\$ 37	54
PLYMOUTH COUNTY.		
Abington, East, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.		
in part,)	3 15	በበ
" South, Congregational Church and Society,	••	00
Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		25
Carver, A friend,		00
Marshfield, First Congregational Church and Society,		00
- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Middleboro', Central Congregational Church and Society,	29	
North Bridgewater, First Congregational Church and Society, . Porter Evangelical Congregational Church	14	VV
	100	40
and Society,	109	_
Plymouth, Second Congregational Church and Society,	7	87
	\$ 268	13

BARNSTABLE COUNTY.

DARNOIAE	ישידנ	COU	74 T 7	L.				
BARMSTABLE COUNTY BIBLE SOCI	ETY	—Dea	. Joh	n M	unroe,	Tre	asurer.	
Centreville, Congregational Church	and	Socie	ty,	•	•	•	\$ 16	61
Chatham, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B						r)	30	00
Falmouth, Congregational Church and Society,						•	7	20
" East, Congregational Chu	ırch :	and S	ociet	у.	•	•	6	00
Wellfleet, First Congregational Chu	ırch	and	Socie	ety,				
on Bible account, .	•	•	•	•	\$ 11	16		
" Methodist Episcopal Chu	rch,	on do		•	11	25		
Yarmouth, First Congregational Ch	urch	and	Socie	et y ,				
on do	•	•	•	•	36	00		
" Society of Rev. Mr. Pacl	kard,	on do).	•	14	40		
					\$ 72	81	\$ 59	81
•								
MISCELLANEO	US	DON	ATI	ONS	3.		•	
Bath, Me., A friend,	•	•	•	•	•	•	\$ 10	00
Union, Me., Sabbath school children	١,	•	•	•	•	•	1	00
J. W. C., Me.,	•	•	•	•	•	•	5	00
Deerfield, N. H., Mr. John Eastman	1,	•	•	•	•	•	2	50
Derry, N. H., Nehemiah Choate, (1	L. M	. A. B	. 8.)	•	•	•	30	00
Exeter, N. H., E. T. Odlin, (1 L. M.))	•	•	•	•	•	20	00
" W. S. by N. P. Kem	p,	•	•	•	•	•	5	00
Gilmanton, N. H., Moses P. Page, (1 L.	M. A.	B. 8.)		•	•	30	00
Henniker, N. H., Congregational Ch	nurch	and	Soci	ety,	•	•	23	30
Keene, N. H., Simeon N. Perry,	•	•	•	•	•	•	100	00
Berlin, Vt., Rev. James Hobart, (1 1	X .	A. B.	8.)	•	•	•	40	00
" Dea. Benjamin Stricklar	•	•	•	•	•	•	5	00
Springfield, O., Miss Lucy A. Child,	•	•	•	•	•	•	5	00
Grinnell, Iowa, A friend,	•	•	•	•	•	•	5	00
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COLL	ECT	IONS	}					
By the Rev. E. F. SLAFTER, A	gent	of the	Am	erica	n Bibl	e So	ricty.	
St. Peter's Church, Cambridgeport,	•	•	•	•	•	•	\$ 14	51
St. Matthew's Church, South Boston	n,	•	•	•	•	•	16	15
L. S. C. G	•	•	•	•	•	•	20	00
St. John's Church, Charlestown,	•	•	•	•	•	•	100	00
Grace Church, Newton Corner,	•	•	•	•	•	•	6	00
Christ Church, Waltham,	•	•	•	•	•	•	21	20
Sunday School of Christ Church, V	Valth	am,	•	•	•	•	3	80
Grace Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	•	135	68
St. Paul's Church, Boston, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	645	50
St. John's Church, Jamaica Plain,	•	•	•	•	•	•	50	08

Trinity Church, Boston, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	161	37
St. Andrew's Church, Hanover,		•	•	•	•	•	•	75	00
Christ Church, Boston, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	00
St. Mary's Church, Dorchester,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	25	00
St. Paul's Church, Brookline,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	172	47
St. Peter's Church, Salem,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	51	50
St. Michael's Church, Marblehe	ad,	•	•	•	•	•	•	42	63
St. John's Church, Portsmouth,	N.	H.	•	•	•	•	•	46	30
Grace Church, Medford, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	20	00
Trinity Church, Melrose, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	5	00
8. D	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	3	00
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directly into the treasury of ((Other collections made by Mr. Slaf Auxiliary Societies.)	ter in LEG	Mass	achuse				•	1,081 rough of	14 ther
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ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING

IN BOSTON,

MAY 23, 1859, BEING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON, 42 CONGRESS STREET. 1859.



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OP THE

MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY FOR 1859-60.

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TO WHOM APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE MADE FOR BIBLES.

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Samuel H. Walley, Esq 1809—11 Hon. Peter O. Thacher, 1811—12 John Tappan, Esq 1812—35	Henry Edwards, Esq George R. Sampson, Esq							
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ANNUAL REPORT.

In the month of June, 1809, a Circular Address to the friends of the Bible in Massachusetts, was published in the newspapers of the day. Though written in the infancy of our benevolent operations, it clearly and forcibly sets forth the motives and principles that have since impelled and guided the friends of truth in the prosecution of the various philanthropic and Christian enterprises that mark our age. In pursuance of the call contained in this Address, a meeting was held in the Representatives' Hall of the State House, on the 6th of July following. The names of those who attended this meeting, one hundred and seven in all, are given in the records. They were, not a few of them, eminent for their talents and social position, and for their earnest advocacy of every work fitted to elevate the character and improve the condition of their fellow Most of these have passed away; but a few who went up to this first gathering in their early manhood, are with us to-day, regarding with undiminished interest the work of the Society they helped to form, and rejoicing in its continued prosperity. The record informs us, that at the first meeting held for the choice of officers, on the 13th of July, William Phillips, Esq., was elected President, an office which he held for eighteen years, resigning it only with his life.

It is a pleasant circumstance connected with the Fiftieth Anniversary, that the Chair, which has been of late so ably occupied by one whose abilities and services we all regret to lose, is filled to-day by a lineal descendant of the first President of the Society, who was its unwavering friend and most munificent patron.

From the record of the Trustees, we learn that in carrying out the objects of the Society, "The Executive Committee have contracted with Greenough & Stebbins, for one hundred octavo Bibles, and two hundred duodecimo. That of these, they have sent thirty-six to the chaplain of the almhouse, and eleven to poor families, and intend to deposit fourteen in the prison of this town; and that they are now using means to obtain such information as will enable them to distribute the rest where they will be most useful." This seems to us a very inconsiderable amount of labor for such a Society; but it should be remembered that the city, then the town of Boston, contained less than twenty thousand There was no opening for the distriinhabitants. bution of Bibles beyond the sea, and the objects of this charity were comparatively few at home. Fifty years have witnessed a great expansion of the field to be occupied, and a somewhat corresponding increase of our labors, as the statements herewith submitted will show.

There have been issued from the Depository, during the year, 16,328 Bibles; 18,341 Testaments; 4,651 Testaments with the Psalms, and 827 Psalms; making a total of 40,147. Of these, 38,437 were in the English, and 1,710 in various foreign languages.

The gratuitous issues have been 5,212 Bibles; 5,033 Testaments; 219 Testaments with the Psalms, and 25 Psalms; making a total of 10,489.

They have been appropriated as follows:—To seamen, 4,082; to Sabbath and other schools, 1,918; to city missions, 763; to public institutions and public houses, 727; to destitute families and individuals in Massachusetts, 2,633; and the remaining 366 abroad.

The income of the Society for the year ending April 30, has been \$23,258 76; of which were from donations, legacies, and annual subscriptions, \$9,216 46; from sales, \$12,889 50; returned for books granted, \$7 05; proceeds of horse and wagon sold, \$50; from interest and dividends, \$1,095 75. The amount in the Treasury at the commencement of the year, was \$1,353 37, making the total available means, \$24,612 13.

The expenditures during the year have been, in all, \$22,330 92; of which were for Bibles and Testaments, \$15,684 62; donations to the American Bible Society, \$2,426 12; rent, postage and insurance, \$253 39; freight and cartage, \$183 28; wrapping-paper, twine, printing, stationery and advertising, \$80 79; annual report, \$70; repairs and

gas and water fixtures, \$82 13; fuel, water, gas and incidental expenses, \$46 08; expense of annual meeting, \$15; commissions for collecting annual subscriptions for two years, \$103 68; salary of General Agent, Depository Agent, and Assistant, \$2,425; salary and expenses of Distributing Agent, \$705 29; traveling expenses of General Agent, \$255 54; leaving a balance in the Treasury of \$2,281 21; of which \$1,000 are the avails of a legacy to be permanently invested by direction of the testator, and the income, only, used.

In addition to the sum of \$18,110 74 paid to the American Bible Society for books and donations, the further sum of \$12,042 53 has been sent from this State directly to their treasury, making a total of \$30,153 07 paid by Massachusetts to the National Society the past year.

Rev. Mr. Butler, Recording Secretary and General Agent of the Society, has pursued his labors as usual, and with encouraging tokens of success.

The Rev. Mr. Slafter, Agent of the American Bible Society for the Episcopal Church in New England and the Middle States, has continued the work of his Agency in Massachusetts the past year, with gratifying success. The collections made in connection with his labors here, have, for the most part, passed into our treasury.

During the year, the Franklin County Bible Society have undertaken the supply of that County by the voluntary labors of the friends of the Bible in the several towns. Thirteen towns have already

engaged in this work, and the whole County will ere long be canvassed.

Mr. JACOB HERSEY, Distributing Agent of the Society, finished his labors in Middlesex County in October last. He reports having visited, in all, 34,678 families, of which 5,002 were of foreign nativity. Those of the Roman Catholic faith so generally declined to purchase or receive the Bible, and were so reluctant to disclose whether or not they possessed a copy of the Douay Version, that it was not thought advisable to attempt to gather statistics of the destitution among this class, since, when collected, they must of necessity be far from reliable. The number of families found without a Bible was 321. Many other families and individuals were found with only imperfect copies. such were supplied, either by sale or gift. has sold 2,436 Bibles and 4,460 Testaments, and given 1,131 Bibles and 2,992 Testaments; making a total of 11,019 Bibles and Testaments put in circulation.

Since completing the canvass of Middlesex County, Mr. Hersey has been laboring in Essex South, and reports, under date of April 13, the results of his labors in ten towns, including the city of Salem. He has visited 6,504 families, 49 of which were without a Bible. In many homes of seamen, along the coast, his visits were highly prized, as affording an opportunity to procure Bibles for their boys going to sea, or to replace copies parted with to those already gone. One little girl said she gave

her Bible to her brother, who went to sea last autumn. It was a present from her teacher, and very precious to her; but she had rather part with it than that her brother should go to sea without a Bible. He has sold 757 Bibles and 1,326 Testaments, and given 321 Bibles and 645 Testaments; making a total of 3,049 put in circulation on this field.

Mr. Hersey is cordially commended to all who may receive his visits, as one faithful and laborious in the work committed to him. Referring to his labors in Salem, and in North and South Danvers, the Salem Observer of April 9, says: "He appears to be well adapted to the good work in which he is engaged, and heartily devoted to it. Great good will no doubt result from his faithful and untiring labors. The friends of the Bible in every place which he visits, should give him their ready and hearty aid, in scattering the word of salvation among the destitute."

In conclusion, your Committee would invite the earnest co-operation of all, in supplying our ancient and favored Commonwealth with the word of God. Next, certainly, to the privilege of possessing and improving it, is that of imparting it. Giving it, doth not impoverish, nor doth withholding it, enrich. It was meant for the people; they have an inalienable title to it. If they will not come for it, then send it to them. If they will not purchase it, let us give it to them. Above all, let no one, willing and eager to receive the boon, remain bereft of it. Our

fathers brought it with them—they drew from it the courage to dare, and the patience to endure. They made it the corner stone of church and state. They reared upon it their priceless institutions. Let us, in our day and generation, prize it—profit by it—circulate it far and wide—free as the free spirit that lives in it, and breathes through it; then transmit it, our best legacy, to the generations following.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Fiftieth Annual Meeting of the BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS, was held in the upper vestry of the Central Church, Boston, on Monday, May 23, 1859. The Annual Report of the Treasurer was read and accepted. The Annual Report of the Executive Committee was presented by the chairman, and the reading thereof postponed to the public meeting.

A letter was read from Hon. RICHARD FLETCHER, declining to be a candidate for re-election to the office of President; whereupon, on motion of Hon. Charles T. Russell, the following Resolution was passed:

Resolved, That this Society have received with regret the letter of Hon. RICHARD FLETCHER, late President of the Society, declining a re-election to that office, and that the thanks of the Society be presented to him for his able, faithful and acceptable services as its President for the past five years.

The officers of the Society for the ensuing year, were elected.

The members of the Society then proceeded to the church, where the public services of the Anniversary were held.

The Scriptures were read and prayer offered by Rev. John Waddington, of London, England.

The President, Hon. Samuel H. Walley, of Boston, then addressed the assembly as follows:

I feel deeply sensible of the high honor, most unexpectedly conferred upon me, by the action of this Society, in calling upon me to become the President of a BIBLE SOCIETY.

There is no position in the gift of my fellow-citizens, to a

layman, which, in my judgment, is more honorable than this: and I avail myself of this first opportunity, publicly to tender to the Society my sincere thanks for this evidence of their confidence.

About fifty years have passed away since this Society was organized. It owes its existence to a call published in a newspaper in Boston, in June, 1809, signed by one hundred and seven names, nearly all of whom have made their mark in the age in which they lived; some few of whom still linger among us, and many of whom have left memories of their deeds, fragrant and imperishable.

The Society was organized in July following the date of the call, and by the choice of my honored grandfather as President, my beloved father as Treasurer, the endeared Buckminster and the revered Pierce as Secretaries.

The objects of the Association are fully and distinctly set forth in the call. We quote two paragraphs as follows: "When we give a Bible, we communicate an undoubted good. We give what is needed by men of every age, character, rank and condition. We circulate not an imperfect production of man, but the Book of God; not a work of controversy, but the gospel of peace, which all Christians acknowledge to be the standard by which their controversies must be judged." * "One more advantage, and a very important one remains to be mentioned; this is an object in which all Christians may unite. Here is a common ground in which all denominations may meet, and join heart and hand, and forget the distinctions which keep them asunder. Let Christians of every name concur in the good end here proposed, and they can hardly help improving in that love which is the badge of the true disciples of the Saviour."

The love inculcated in the address, and evinced in the organization of this Society, has continued to bind this Association together, and has been continually manifested in the election of its officers—no two Presidents, for the first half century of its existence, having been of the same religious denomination—and the true spirit and interest of the founders having been observed in all its doings, so far as I am informed.

This is one of the oldest Bible Societies of this country. The only State Society of an earlier date is the one in Pennsylvania—

and the National Society was not organized till 1816. The reports of the doings of our Society, printed from year to year, show what has been done, and evince a commendable progress in the noble work which calls us together.

But how little have we done—and are we doing—compared with what we might accomplish, ought to accomplish, and shall one day wish that we had done, to show our love to our Saviour and to the souls of our fellow-men. When, as individuals, we shall have imitated the example of an intelligent, kind-hearted Christian woman in Russia, who, after having sold her watch to purchase one hundred Bibles for distribution, among those poorer than herself—took the whole city of St. Petersburgh for her sphere, and perambulated it alone, and succeeded beyond all expectations, in the noble effort, and lived to see hundreds benefited by her self-denying labors—or when, like her of whom an account was furnished by the Secretary of the French and Foreign Bible Society in Paris—of limited means and deprived of sight—we shall fully appreciate the value of the Bible; we shall not be satisfied with any past attainments in this cause. The Secretary related of her, that to increase the sensibility of her fingers to the touch of the raised letters of the Bible, she removed the skin from the ends of her fingers, already hardened by labor;—she soon discerned that the difficulty was only increased and her fingers soon became more hardened and less sensitive. In despair she took up her Bible, and pressing it against her lips, wetting it with her tears, thus addressed it: "Farewell, farewell, sweet word of my heavenly Father, food of my soul—I must part with thee." But what was her surprise to find that her lips, more delicate than her fingers, detected the form of the letters, and she read the words, "Gospel according to Mark." Her soul overflowed with gratitude to God—and she passed the night, in perusing God's Book, and pouring out her thanks to him for enabling her to do so.

And now, friends, let me congratulate you, one and all, on the privilege of being associated in this blessed work. High raised above the din of strife—far removed from all contention, is our enterprise.

We look forward to the time when wars shall cease—when party bitterness and sectarian strife and animosity shall be heard

no more—when the leaves of the tree which is for the healing of the nations shall be scattered as widely as the ruin of the fall and when one voice shall be heard under the whole heavens, crying "Hallelujah!—for the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ."

Rev. NATHANIEL L. FROTHINGHAM, D. D., Vice President, followed, saying:

It is one of the pleasant thoughts of this occasion, that it finds all our minds in perfect harmony with it. There is no difference of opinion as to the objects that we wish to promote. And yet we are met to talk about the Bible,—a subject of the most various, incessant, and sometimes angry controversy. For the fact is, that the Bible is so wide a theme as to allow room for the greatest diversities of opinion; and it is so precious an interest as to call out a great deal of feeling in the discussion of those diversities. But whatever our views may be on ever so many points relating to the Sacred Volume, we are all agreed upon the importance of multiplying the copies of it, and giving them the freest circulation.

Let me try to illustrate this simple idea by applying it to one or two of the questions most discussed at the present time. take first the different views that are entertained of the Bible itself, its essential character and composition. According to some, it is the very word of God,—as if he had literally uttered it with his mouth and written it with his hand. It is inspired. from beginning to end, as they believe, with an infallible wisdom and a supernatural authority. They repeat the language, so often quoted from a distinguished writer: "It has God for its author. salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter." They go further than this. They suppose that every word is under a divine dictation, and in every sentence lies some sacred mystery. Others cannot admit these statements. They depart very widely from them. They say with another profoundly religious writer, "The Bible was written by men for the use of men." They read it by the same lights and judge it by the same rules, with which they read and judge other and infinitely inferior writings. They call it the word of God, because it is so full of heavenly meaning, because the will of God is so abundantly shown there, and the dealings of God are so wondrously related, and the promises of God are so richly offered to the waiting soul. They feel that it is inspired, because it is inspiring;—so governing and comforting and uplifting for human hearts;—and for no other reason and in no other way. Now, these views are very contrary to each other. So contrary that they who hold to the first of them will be tempted to think, and to charge, that they who are otherwise minded have very little to hold by. And yet these last will enter with as much alacrity as any into the object of the Society on whose behalf we are assembled to-day. And why should they not? The Bible is a holy volume for them also. Its value consists in its uses; and it is conceded that these, on any theory of its origin, are inestimable.

Another consideration worth mentioning, and falling into the same line of thought, relates not so much to the Scriptures themselves, as to the form in which they are presented. This form, all over the English-speaking Protestant world, is the translation made in James First's time, and published by authority. Within a few years the question has been agitated in England, whether a new translation ought not to be prepared, and published by the same authority. The question is at this moment warmly debated. Some deprecate such an innovation as dangerous, and tending to unsettle public belief; and some dislike it from the difficulty there is in doing the work well and wisely, and from their perfect content with the version as it stands. Others, on the contrary, think that the undertaking is demanded by the many imperfections of the present renderings, and by the progress of biblical learning. A dignitary of the English Church, the prudent as well as scholarly Dean of Westminster, has lately written a book on the subject, in which he candidly admits the desirableness of a new translation on some accounts, while at the same time, in so doing he seems rather to be allowing a reasonable plea or submitting to a coming necessity, than to welcome any great blessing therein. But all this is of no anxious concern to us. We circulate our common translation with as hearty good will as if it were the most perfect representation ever given of the original tongues. And why not? And what though absolute perfection should never be reached, in this as in most other

things? It is my belief, that the poorest translation of the Scriptures ever made—and ours is not one of the poorest, but one of the best—expresses substantially their true meaning and breathes out their divine sweetness and energy. It is not possible for the perverseness of theological prejudice, or the ignorance of the learner, or the blunders of scribes, so to blur those immortal records as to hide any of their great lessons from sight. Here is what is sufficient for the humble mind and the sore heart, or there is nothing that can be made sufficient for them.

In this connection, I hope it is not improper to allude to a dispute that recently sprang up at New York, in the American Bible Society; a dispute, in which the endeavors of some of the most learned and honored men were received in a manner quite different from what their scholarship and liberality and laborious service had a right to expect. These scholars were for striking out from their future editions those headings to the chapters, which had crept in without any manner of right, and were often inaccurate and impertinent, and for purifying the old text of King James from the corruptions which had gradually disfigured it in so long a course of re-printing. Now undoubtedly the better way is the better; and I should be ashamed to be indifferent to any corrections that can be made in that edition of the Sacred Word which we help to send abroad. But the Bible is so large an object that we need not be troubled with a few blemishes that human error has cast upon it. They are lost in the breadth of its themes, and the general splendor. The rule, indeed, is, and the profession also, that it shall be printed without note or comment, and according to the most authentic copies. And undoubtedly the rule is an honest and good one. I would have it faithfully carried out. At the same time, I would try not to be too much offended if it is not observed so fully as it ought to be. If it must be so, we may allow the leaders at the heads of the chapters to utter such wisdom as they have, without being much disturbed therefrom; and the hypocrites in the sacred text itself may continue to "strain at" the gnat, instead of straining it out, before they "swallow the camel."*

^{*} I am perfectly aware that this corruption is found in the first edition of our common version, printed in 1611. But since the true and only admissible reading, "strain out," is found everywhere else, in all the versions that King

One more thought is suggested by recent occurrences in our own city. A question has arisen whether the Bible shall continue to be read in the public schools. Some would exclude it, because it is not always in perfect agreement with the translation of a translation which they have been brought up to prefer. Some would drop it, because a topic of discussion and offence might thus be avoided; and others, on the ground that our grammar schools being purely secular institutions, should be confined to the purposes of common instruction. There are those, on the other hand, who not only attach the utmost importance to the continuance of the Scripture exercise, but would persist in adding to it still other religious offices, which were certainly unknown to our fathers, and of which the expediency has been called into very sober question. I am now only repeating facts. saying that there is a difference of judgment here. I offer no argument, I express no opinion, on one side or the other. seems to me evident enough, however, that the popular sentiment is resolute for the public use of the Bible in our public schools. One of our most accomplished citizens, in an Address delivered not long ago in the Music Hall before a society of young men, pronounced this to be the voice of the people; and his word was received with a tumult of applause, which even his fervid eloquence could not again so fully awaken. But whatever may be the issue of this contention, of one thing at least we are certain. Wherever this Society has hitherto sent the Bible, there the Bible will continue to go. Though it should cease from the schoolmaster's desk and the schoolboy's benches, it will have free course still. It will go aboard our ships, and be in cabin and forecastle, speaking as no other pages ever did, or ever can, of the sea and Him that made it. It will lie in poor cottages, and be better than riches to their lowly estate. It will be in the hands of those who travel to great distances, and make acquaintance with solitary spots; and they shall hear its heavenly voice crying to them in the wilderness. It will lie in the broad wards of the hospital, and upon the damp stones of the jail, showing

James's translators had before them,—those of Coverdale, Tyndale, Cranmer, Taverner, John Rogers, as well as in the Geneva and Bishop's Bible, and in the English Romish translation, first printed at Rheims, 1582; it does not admit of a doubt that the error was an accidental and typographical one.

Christ healing the sick, Christ charging to visit the prisoners, saying over and over again, his parable of the penitent son. It will lie in the narrow chamber already darkening with the shadows of death, and prepare the spirit that must depart for the awards of God.

The Annual Report was read by Rev. GEORGE RICHARDS, Chairman of the Executive Committee. The Report was accepted, and ordered to be printed.

The President then introduced Rev. Henry W. Warren, of Boston, who spoke as follows:

The Secretary has been reading the record of the distribution of thousands of Bibles and Testaments the past year. What a pleasing task it would be to follow, in fancy, their course. To think what dying heads they have pillowed, what sinking hearts they have cheered, what joy they have given for sighing, what garments of praise for the spirit of heaviness. But that theme will be pursued under superior advantages in the coming world. Suffer me, on the present occasion, to speak of the Origin, and present Position, of the Book this Society is endeavoring to distribute.

The traveler in Britain sees remnants of a massive wall, nearly seventy miles in length. In Spain and France, he sees evidence of power, in lofty aqueducts leveled over deep valleys. In Africa, he beholds the ruins of vast cities; and reaching far toward the heart of Asia, are expensive military roads, of unexampled solidity and permanence. None of these things were done by the inhabitants of the countries where they are; and besides, all bear marks of a common origin. One by one, he traces each back to that wondrous Roman power, that sat in beauty on the seven hills, and literally ruled the world. As that traveler thinks of the distance of Britain, the greatness of Carthage ruined, the magnitude of distant works of architecture, defying time's effacing fingers, the length of unequaled roads,—there comes to his mind an astounding conviction of the mighty power of that old Roman Empire, the tremendous force of a heart that could impell such life and all-conquering energy, to such distant points.

I have not traveled so widely, but thanks to the genius of the

men of our glorious time, I see more, and much more persuasive evidence of a still greater power in our world to-day. quiet study, I find in far-off India, strange traditions of wonderful things. In Arabia, I see mangled remains of a grander structure than ever stood at Rome, or shone among the marble hills of Greece. Through the recently unbolted doors of China, I catch gleams of light, that is not of earth. A little thought connects all these together, traces a decided family resemblance, and at last proves that an old book, called the Bible, is the source of all. By tremendous power, in far-off ages, it influenced the world, and in spite of every opposing influence, leaves its stamp of power, over vaster spaces than the Roman Empire, on more enduring substance than enduring rock. I observe that power is not so much indicated by relics of the past, as the triumphs of the present. In Germany, once so wild and wandering, there are dropping from the press, ten million volumes yearly. There the Bible proves its own transcendent importance, above all other themes, by being the cause of the vast majority of those works. Where the Bible is respected, I see evidence of its power in forcing a whole people into the highest range of civilization, by forcing mind into the best activity. I see its power in every contrivance, from the thing that jumps the baby, to that constant miracle, the daily paper—to which all the ends of the earth contribute—whose Prospero can make the lightning tell the news its quick eye sees; who has many a tricksy spirit, whose nimble fingers catch the airy sounds which syllable men's thoughts, and by the help of every art, and the use of every triumph of inventive skill, send them far and wide, translated to the language of another sense.

Not alone in these general things, do I see the power of the Bible, but even in particular cases. The poor man, who comes from toil, wearied by oppression, stung by basest wrong, hears it say unto him, in the sweet words of the divine Brother, "Come unto me, all ye that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Its voice comes with infinite cheer to the martyr, who, like Hale, may be denied books, light and company, causing him to say, "Though I walk through the valley and shadow of death, I will fear no evil." Cromwell repeats its words at Dunbar, "Arise, O Lord, and let thine enemies be scattered,"

and the power of that word hurls his men with crushing weight on the ranks of the foe.

What is the secret of the power of that Word? Where are its hidden treasures of influence? From what perennial fountains does it get its increasing control? Let us note its origin, study its pedigree, and we shall find an answer.

It is evidently God's word. Observe how he gives it to man. First, History; always attractive,—the history of creation preeminently so. Having got man's attention by narrative, that equally enchains the child and the aged, through all periods of time. God next adds the record of his law. In order that that law may not be barren precept, its promises uncertain, its threats empty sound, he next makes a record of the development of that system of law, showing the truth of his promise, in the unparalleled prosperity of the obedient; showing the meaning of his threats, by ages of curse, and centuries of suffering. The first installment of the Bible was the Pentateuch. In forty years, all the lore of ages, all the cherished traditions of God's dealings with men, were gathered up, in all possible purity, and embalmed with the sweetest incense for the whole world.

But Law, with its stern prohibitions and awful threats, could never make a Bible. It remained to add the witchery of enphonious sounds, the beauty of gorgeous eastern figures, the movement of measured melody, that would go trooping through the mind without an effort. So He commissioned David and Solomon to add the department of poetry; so infused with lifegiving spirit, that it would almost sing itself. David thrilled his nation's heart with song, and those words have been ringing through the earth for three thousand years. A Bible of laws would be buried in dust like other laws. A Bible of poetry would be vague, and hence not binding. But solid laws interspersed with flashes of poetic fire, principles proclaimed in parables, precepts pointed by proverbs, commands made attractive by all the controlling magic of music, by all the rythmic march and glowing figures of poetry; and poetry guarded and explained by solemn statute, and rigid law, is the way God's wisdom takes to teach men.

The next step of advancement was the addition of the department of Prophecy. God undertook to make man's burning

desire to know the future, that desire that drives men to the stars, the flight of birds, to all insane and foolish measures to read the future, drive him to study his holy Word.

After a long interval, comes the speaking of the Divine Word himself. Man had spoken in the elegance of historical narration; in the terseness and precision of legal phraseology; in the unparalleled luxuriance of eastern poetry; in the divine words of prophecy: but now Christ speaks as never man spake. And the countless multitudes which hung upon his words then, were only the vanguard of the innumerable throng that have ever since found in those words their chief delight.

Then followed the Epistles, fusing the whole mass, and drawing threads of gold, connecting the separate enunciations of truth into one chain, strong enough to hold any soul to heaven, though all earth tries to drag it down; finishing the work God had wrought at for three thousand years, showing it forth in its true glory, grander than any temple of earth, grander than the starry dome, grander than all the material universe of God. Then as a final touch, God added the adornment of that picture of the saints' coming glory, which he gave to John one Sunday morning on the isle of Patmos. What an adornment! Its proportions are taken from the perfection of heaven; its colors were laid by the hand of Him who paints the violet, and every night and morning creates anew the heavens; its characters, saints, angels, fiends, and the victorious Messiah; its scene is laid amid the dissolution of worlds, and the creation of another, and at the time of final judgment.

Such is the Bible. He that can speak a world into being in a moment, adorned and beautified beyond all thought; He that can flash intelligence into any human mind, and send it forth on a voyage of discovery, leaving Newton picking pebbles on the shore,—even He has labored at the Bible for three thousand years. And now it stands up in light, blazing with the burning finger-prints of God's hand-writing.

And now, what is the present position of the Bible. In the first place, Mr. Chairman, it is the last voice God addresses to man:—I mean the term in the widest sense.

God first spoke to man by the voice of conscience. It was his umpire in man. It was God's vicegerent on the earth. It was,

in a degree, the judge and executive of his law. But men corrupted this judge, bribed the executioner, or grew hard, and felt not the lashes of punishment. Then God added another voice to speak to man, that could not be bribed; he retained the lash in his own hand. That voice was his providence in nature. Conscience was not done away, but its teachings were enforced by an agency from without. It having proved insufficient, the rise and fall of nations were set to ideas. The barren earth, its thorns and thistles, its storms and plagues, its irksome labor and its dreaded death, were set to preaching of sin; while "the heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth his handiwork." The history of the deluge washing an unclean earth; the Dead Sea, that putrid memorial of the vileness of Sodom; the scattering of the Jews, and the barrenness of their once fertile land, after shedding innocent blood; the anarchic and diabolic condition of France, after the slaughter and expulsion of the Huguenots; the loss of national greatness to the Netherlands, after the mad persecutions of Philip II.; the steady decadence of Spain, ever since she quenched the spirit of Protestantism in her last auto da fe; the disordered and beggarly condition of that Eden of Italy, on account of ages of sin; the poverty and impending ruin of our own Southern States, because of slavery; all these and many more falling empires, and volcanic eruptions of oppressed nations, are proclaiming with mighty voice, that sin is a curse to any people.

But men having eyes, would not see; ears, would not hear; they "hardened" their hearts amid the most wonderful and terrible manifestations of the power of God, and so God uttered the last part of this triune testimony, the voice of his holy, written word. That word was never so fully established as divine as it is today. Every one of the evidences of its authenticity is stronger than ever before. If the evidence of antiquity is anything, it is older than ever before. That perpetual miracle of its preservation, with its human variation of iotas, and divine identity of idea, shines in its clearest light. All its miracles are more clearly attested as divine works. When they were wrought, men might have supposed that the healer of the sick, and raiser of the dead, was in truth a great physician or magician. The advance of knowledge destroys, or at least weakens that idea. The grand

design of miracles is better understood by every succeeding age.

The same is true of prophecy. More of it is fulfilled than in any previous age. Its application is more clearly seen. All history may now be set on one man's study table, and the vast sweep and fulfillment of prophecy comes to him with a power of divine attestation that could never come to those who could only gather fragments of one nation's history. A barren Idumea, whose streams are pitch, whose dust is brimstone, lying waste from generation to generation, and none passing through it since the time of the curse,* is an unprecedented and ever growing proof of the divine origin of the prophecies of God's word, and of the truth of Him who fulfills to the iota his law. Prophecy and its fulfillment attesting that God's word is truth, like the river in Ezekiel grows wider and deeper in each succeeding age.

External confirmations of the truth of the Bible were never so numerous and decisive as they are to-day. When the hieroglyphics of Egypt began to be read, infidelity made a desperate attempt to make the enemies and oppressors of the Jews say something that their wicked cunning could construe against the Bible. But blessed be our God, every word relating to the subject, confirmed the Scripture record. The Rosetta stone dashed through the cobweb systems spun from their own bowels, and brought to light accounts of Jannes and Jambres, the death of the first-born, and the exodus of the Jews. God has kept evidence of his truth buried beneath the preserving sands, and brought it out in this skeptical age, when it could be understood, photographed, printed and preserved above ground, the latest revelation of which, is the hunting diary of Nebuchadnezzar, with a reference to his being insane and eating grass like an ox. Glorious confirmation of one of the least credible statements of Scripture!

The general student finds the Bible account of the creation infinitely more precise and superior to any of the cosmogonies of the heathen world. He finds the literature of a Christian people of infinitely wider range. He sees that the Bible, and that alone, can be the cause. He traces all worthy and lofty ideas, all high incentives to virtue, back to the book that "... gives a

[•] Isa. xxxiv. 9, seq.

light to every age." He sees that neither ancient sorcery, medizeval Mohammedanism, nor modern spiritualism, has given one single idea of any importance to man. But the Bible has engrafted on the stock of human knowledge, such thoughts as immortality, omnipotence, holiness, love, judgment and reward. He sees the Bible is not exhausted.

Did Newton's matchless mind demonstrate the true system of the revolving worlds? Did Herschel prove that the north was most barren in stars? For thousands of years had the Bible uttered its voice. "He stretcheth the north out over the empty place; he hangeth the earth upon nothing." Has Lieut. Maury delighted and profited the world by his discoveries of oceanic and aerial currents? The whole system is in a nutshell in the Bible. "The wind goeth toward the south and turneth about unto the north, it whirleth about continually." This age has just discovered that storms are whirlwinds, " and the wind returneth according to his circuits," i. e. established routes. "All the rivers run into the sea, yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither return they again." Has modern science demanded a greater stretch of thought than to conceive that our solar system is whirling round a central sun, on an orbit of eighteen million years? And with mathematical surety it points to the star Alcyone, one of the Pleiades, as that centre. Thousands of years ago God convicted a man of weakness, by asking him if he could "bind the sweet influence of the Pleiades?" Overwhelming question! Undeniable evidence that the Bible derives its unsearchable wisdom from the infinite depths of God. On account of these things, the Bible is able to satisfy the ripest scholars and deepest thinkers. On account of these things, and the yet deeper meanings believed to be hidden in the unanswerable questions that follow, the Bible has passed through a severer trial than that of scorn and persecution. Itself the product of a rude age, it has borne the criticism of refinement; coming to enlighten the deepest ignorance, it holds its place amid the advancements of science, and the most wonderful developments of knowledge. The Bible holds sway with convincing and controling power over the highest type of mind of to-day—the Anglo Saxon.

Not only has it satisfied thinkers and theorists, but more certainly has it satisfied practical men. Its theory is little to them, but that theory wrought into practice, through ages, by nations, its truth confirmed by millions in life, in violent and peaceful death, is evidence their minds cannot resist.

In these particulars the Bible stands better authenticated as a divine revelation than ever before.

We said it was the last voice of God to man. It is also the last that is to be given. Even the Holy Spirit, present in the world, the blessed Comforter sent to take the place of Christ, speaks according to this word; explains and enforces, not enlarges He brings the words of Christ to remembrance, not utters new words. The Bible is complete. Other works perish, this endures. Pyramids sink at the bottom, wear off at the top, and have forgotten the very names they were built to preserve. The Bible displays its sure foundations laid in eternal truth more and more, it rises higher in human esteem, and age after age brings more glory to its Author. The lauded heathen classics confirm the growing opinion of their utter uselessness for any purpose for which they were designed. But the deep, clear meaning of the Bible, glows brighter and brighter with each succeeding age. More and more do men acknowledge that its light is from heaven, its wisdom from the deep fountains of Omniscience, its glory from Him that dwelleth in light inapproachable, its origin from Him by whom the worlds swing never an inch out of place, or a second out of time, from Him who made bright seraph for eternal joy, and found a way to save men from immortal woe.

Such, Mr. Chairman, is the glorious origin and commanding position of our blessed Bible. Happy the man that can aid in spreading God's book. Let it be spread till its light arises in all the dark places of the earth, till its soothing words drop into every sorrowing heart, till its blessed "peace be still" calms every storm of passion, till it be found in every counting-room and place of human resort, till its all-pervading influence makes the whole earth resound with "Glory to God, on earth peace, good will to man."

Rev. Edwin Johnson, of Boston, was next introduced and said:

Mr. President,—I know not whether it has come to pass casually, or by design, that this Anniversary stands first in the list of religious meetings that are to succeed each other during this Festival Week. But certainly the place it holds is significant and exceedingly appropriate. Let the Bible lead the procession, for it represents all that is to follow. What benevolent enterprise do you name, of which this is not the source and the soul? The enterprise of Missions at home, or abroad? Where did the sublime idea of missionary labor take its rise, but in the precept, "Love thy neighbor as thyself," in the example of Jesus, and in the command uttered upon the Mount of Ascension, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature?" When has that work ceased, save when, as in the dark ages, the word of God has been bound? What has the work for its object, save to make known the God and Saviour of the Bible?

Do you name the cause of Christian Education? What has founded schools and colleges, but the Word whose entrance to the mind gives light, and creates the desire for more light? What but the demand of the church for educated men, to expound the Scriptures? Do you name the enterprise of diffusing a Christian Literature, in the form of volumes or pages? What is Christian literature, but the truths of the divine Word, diluted and diversified by the language and illustrations of good men? the Bible itself being the Book of books? Do you speak of efforts to bless Seamen?—This is the Seaman's Friend. Do you speak of philanthrophy, in the form of efforts to promote Freedom? The Bible broke the fetters of Roman slavery—brought out the Church of the Reformation from the house of bondage—gave birth to our Republic, and is the hidden power that will not let oppression, on either continent, remain undisturbed. Do you speak of the cause of Peace? When was the syllable first sounded effectually, but as the initial note of the song over Bethlehem's plains? and where is the armory of arguments whereby war is to be overwhelmed in a victory more glorious than it ever witnessed, but in the teachings of the meek Messiah?

Sir, it is too plain for argument, that we owe to the Bible such a week as this; and there is not one of the noble institutions,

whose claims will come before us, that would not, without jealousy, fulfil the part of the sheaves in the dream of Joseph, bowing in obeisance to this sheaf wherein the germs are bound up from which they all have grown. And from this very fact, admitted, as I am sure it will be on all sides, might one draw a convincing argument for the divinity of the Scriptures. That which can create enterprises and institutions of so much grandeur, is not itself created, but is an emanation from the Infinite.

In the great work of that great man, who has just been followed to the grave with all the pomp that Prussia could marshal, to pay the last honors to genius and science, there is a quotation from Cicero, himself quoting from Aristotle, to this effect: that "if there were beings that had always lived under ground, in convenient, nay, magnificent dwellings, adorned with statues and pictures and everything which belongs to prosperous life; if, then, these beings should be told of the being and power of the gods, and should come up through open fissures from their secret abodes to the places which we inhabit; if they should suddenly behold the starry heavens, the changing moon, the rising and setting of the stars, and their eternally ordained and unchangeable courses, they would exclaim with truth, There are gods, and such great things are their works!"

Now if an inhabitant of the elder world, a Cicero or an Aristotle, should come from the region in which they dwelt, rich as it was in the creations of art, but dimly lighted by the rays of earth-born philosophy; if from those realms he should come hither and see the new order of civilization, the new circle in which thought is beginning to move, the low vault of time lifted to the high heaven of an immortality clearly made known, and such enterprises as these set in motion there; if he should be assured, even by philosophers themselves, that all this light, liberty and love flows from one luminary, would he not say, That luminary must be the effulgence of bright essence increate—the handiwork of God! The effects of the Word, upon the soul and upon society, are indeed, as the Psalmist has sung, not merely equal, but superior to the starry firmament in their testimony to a divine Original.

There is one great difficulty which I experience in speaking upon this theme, apart from that which I should feel in

attempting to speak effectively upon any theme. It might appear that a minister who, if true to his calling, gives his days and his nights to the Scriptures, should be able to discourse anywhere and at any time of his specialty. But it is one thing for an astronomer to speak of a single star, and another to hold forth concerning the whole cosmical system; one thing for a botanist to analyze and describe a single flower, or leaf, and another to say a word when the subject assigned to him is the whole vegetable kingdom. One endowed with the gift of poetry, might make the streamlet or fountain the burden of his song, who, in presence of Niagara, would be but dumb, silenced by nature's overwhelming voice. And though we may be accustomed to handle single texts of the Word, not indeed without diffidence and a conscious incapacity to unfold their full meaning, you set us quite another task when you bid us discourse of the whole volume, teeming with truths whose boundaries are lost in dis-This I will say, that if there is anything for which, next to the privilege of leading sinners to Christ, the ministry is to be prized and coveted, it is the privilege of close and constant communion with this Manual. Custom doth not stale its use, nor exhaust its infinite variety.

An atheist, walking through a wood, picked up a leaf and held it between his eye and the sun. Instantly his skepticism, built up by arguments and prejudice, vanished; for the wondrous tracery of that leaf demonstrated a hand divine. So, how often it happens to me and my brethren, that, holding single passages and pages to the intent gaze of the mind, their perfect expression and profound truth flash upon us a conviction which no array of arguments in favor of inspiration could produce, and no arguments upon the other side could alter.

I would not fail in a proper discrimination. Doubtless, in a book intended for all times and lands, there are portions more directly appropriate at one period or place than another. But when I hear the Bible, taken together, characterized as an old Book, I feel that the term does not belong to it, if by old is meant obsolete. I would as soon call the stars old and uninteresting; whose lustre is bright now as if they were new created; or the earth old, whose bloom, to-day, is fresh as if this was the first spring that it ever saw. Every day these truths are seen unfold-

ing themselves in the light of thought, of experience, and of the events of history. Memnon is silent, but these are living oracles, not cunningly devised fables; and he who would learn what is truth, upon questions which now and evermore are of the most solemn and intense interest, must come bowing reverently to this shrine, and he shall receive a new message—new, although, like the new commandment of the Apostle, it is "the word which he has heard from the beginning."

I believe, sir, that there is a great deal of the Bible so new, that it has not yet been discovered; that, as Luther said, we have only yet settled the borders of the continent—not penetrated into the interior; or, as the Puritan Pastor said, God has much more light yet to break forth out of His word; or, as a Prophet and an Apostle said, "The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away, but the Word of the Lord endureth for ever;" or, as One greater than all said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

And not only is the Bible still living, it is also life-giving. It is the nourisher of that spiritual life which, like itself, is immortal. For David speaketh in this wise; "Blessed is the man whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law doth he meditate day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither." And Jesus declared, "I am the bread that came down from heaven. He that eateth me shall live by me. The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." All Christian experience testifies that this is true; that as there is no book so vital, there is none so vitalizing as this.

Old, then, the Word is, but ever new; and therefore its age gives it worth, for it is not like a novelty that has yet to be tried. It has been tried by time, persecution, unbelief, science, criticism, experience, and it has stood the test. Beautifully does Coleridge observe, "In every generation, and wherever the light of revelation has shone, men of all ranks, conditions and states of mind, have found a correspondent movement toward the Better, felt in their own hearts. As if, on some dark night, a pilgrim—suddenly beholding a bright star moving before him, should stop in fear and perplexity. But lo! traveler after traveler passes by him, and

each, being questioned whither he is going, makes answer, I am following you guiding star! The pilgrim quickens his own steps, and presses on in confidence. More confident still will he be, if, by the wayside, he should find here and there ancient monuments, each with its votive lamp, and on each the name of some former pilgrim, and a record that there he had first seen or begun to follow the benignant star."

Mr. President, you and I, and many who are here, hope that we, following that star, have been guided to the babe of Bethlehem and to the port of peace. Shall we not point others toward it? Shall we not rejoice in the privilege of imparting the good which we have received?

Just now the occurrence upon foreign territory of war—which every humane and Christian heart must lament—brings to our markets the prospect of an increased demand for bread; and in this many a farmer and many a merchant rejoice. Let us, having in abundance the Bread of Life, gladly give it alike to the destitute around us and to distant nations.

These very conflicts, with all their hideous horrors, will result through an overruling Providence, as the Opium war, the Crimean war, and the war in India have done, in breaking down barriers that heretofore have hindered the gospel. Whatever the plans of the Rulers of France, Austria, Russia or Sardinia may be, the Lord on high, who is mightier than the noise of many waters, and who poureth contempt upon princes, will I doubt not, subsidize their power and policy to His good purpose for the redemption of those lands long blinded by superstition, bound by despotism.

Enjoying peace, liberty and prosperity—blessings which we clearly owe to the Bible—an ever-growing obligation is upon us to send freely forth that which we have freely received.

God grant that we may be ready to respond to His providences, having learned to appreciate His Word by a rich experience in our own souls of the salvation it brings to all who believe.

After the usual Doxology, and the Benediction, the meeting was dissolved.

CONSTITUTION.

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CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

Sec. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Brown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

- SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal, which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.
- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- Sec. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty; and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.

Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

BY-LAWS.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

ARTICLE I.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

ARTICLE 11.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice President, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice President and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository,—each of said Committees to consist of three persons.

, ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository annually, four copies of the Common Bible, or the value thereof, (1,00,) in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

BY VIRTUE OF A CONTRIBUTION OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

*Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. Albree, John, Boston. Albro, Rev. John A., Cambridge. Albro, Mrs. Elizabeth 8. Albro, Miss Annie E. Alden, Almira S. C., Fozbore'. Alden, Russell, Campello. Andrews, Artemas F., Fitchburg. Andrews, C. L., Boston. Andrews, W. T. *Appleton, Samuel, Boston. Appleton, William, " Atwood, John W., Chatham. Bacon, Jacob, Gloucester. Babcock, Mrs. Nancy, Boston. Baker, Francis, South Danvers. Baker, Mrs. Eleanor J. W., Durchester. Harber, Martin, Sherborn Barnard, William F., Marlboro. Barnes, William, "Bartlett, Thomas, Boston.
Bayley, Robert, Newburyport. Beal, Alexander, Boston. Beebe, James M. Beebe, Mrs. James M. " Beebe, Charles E. Beebe, Francis L. Heebe, Edward P. " Beebe, Emily B. " Beebe, Mary L. Beecher, Rev. William H., No. Brookfield. Belknap, Miss Martha M., Framingham. Blanchard, Miss Frances C., Groton. Bodwell, Rev. J. C., Framingham. *Bond, George, Boston. Bowers, Luke K. Bowers, Mrs. Cara H. Brackett, James, Quincy. Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgetown. Brant, Aaron, South Reading. Brewer, Cyrus, Dorchester. Brickett, Franklin, Haverhill. Briggs, Rev. William T., Princeton. Briggs, Mrs. Abby L. *Bromfield, Elizabeth, Boston. *Brooks, Peter C. Brooks, Peter C. Groton. Brown, Joseph, Bulkley Mrs. Catharine F. Burge, Lorenzo, Boston. Burrage, J. C. "Butler, Mrs. Jane D., Groton. Cady, Rev. Daniel R., West Cambridge. Cady, Mrs. Harriet S. Capen, Mrs. Charles, Framingham. Capen, Miss C. Elizabeth, " Carpenter, Catharine E., Fozbore'. Carpenter, Daniel, "Cary, George C., N. Bridgewater. Chase, Ann Maria, Haverkill. Chase, Hezekiah A, Lynn. Child, Miss Lucy, Theiford, Vt.

Childs, Horace, Henniker, N. H. Choate, David, Topafield. Clap, James, Dorchester. Clap, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Clapp, John C. Clark, James G., Andover. Clark, John I. Clark, Jonathan, Winchester. Clark, Oliver R. Clark, Miss Nelly, Sherborn. Clark, Rev. P. K., South Deerfield. Clark, Rev. Rufus W., Brooklyn, N. Y. Clarke, Francis, Haverhill. Clary, Mrs. S. S., Ashland. Cleaveland, Waldo, South Deerfield. *Cobb, Richard, Buston. Cobb, Jacob, Abington. *Codman, Charles R. Boston. Codman, Mrs. Catharine, Conn, Horace, Woburn. Cook, Asu, Newton. Coolidge, Joseph, Boston. Coolidge, Lowell, Sherborn. Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Curtis, Abner, East Abington. Cushman, George H., North Bridgewater. Cutter, Stephen, Winchester. Cutter, Stephen H. Damon, Albert P., Reading. Dana, Samuel, Bestun. Dana, Charles B., Brookline. Dane, John H. Daniell, Mrs. Eliza B., Medway. Davis, Alvah M., Haverkill. Davis, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Northboro'. Davis, James, Boston. Day, Robert L., Newton. Denham Rev. George, Barre. Denham, Mrs. Clara D. Dix, Mrs. Elijah, Boston. Dodd, Rev. S. G., Spencer. Dodge, Rev. John, Harvard. Dodge, Mrs. Ann 8. Dodge, Mrs. J. M. C, Andover. *Dorr, John, Boston. *Dow, Josiah, *Downe, Edward, Dedham. Dunlap, Sumner, South Deerfield. Dunn, Edward H., Boston, Dutch, Elizabeth M. " Dyer, Rev. E. Porter, Hingham. Eager, William, Eastburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, " Eaton, Eben, Framingham.
Eaton, Miss Martha W., Fitchburg.
Eaton, William, Boston.
Eaton, William J., Westboro'.
*Eliot, Samuel, Boston.
Eliot, Samuel A.
*Elwell Robert " *Elwell, Robert, Emery, Mrs. Harriet, North Weymouth. Everett, Edward, Besten.

Farnsworth, Mrs. Abel, Groton. Farwell, Stephen T., Cambridge. Fay, Cyrus, Westboro'. Fearing, Albert, Boston. Fearing, Mrs. Albert, " Fisher, Miss Eliza, Medway. Ford, Rov. George, East Falmouth. Ford, Thomas A., Buston. Ford, Thomas A., North Bridgewater. Ford, Mrs Eliza C. Fuedick, Charles, Groton. Fosdick, Frederick, "Fosdick, Samuel W. " Foedick, Miss Mary, Francis, Ebenezer, Boston. Furbor, Rev. Daniel L., Newton. Furber, Mrs. Maria B. Gale, Rev. Wakefield, Rockport. Gale, Mrs. Wakofield, Gale, Justin Edwards, Garrette, Rev. Edmund Y., Millbury. Garrette, Mrs. Franzenia W. *Gibbs, Mrs. Mary, Boston Gilman, Miss Rebecca I., Bradford. Gordon, Solomon J., Boston. Gordon, Mrs. Rebecca, " Gott, J. R., Rockport. *Gray, Francis C., Boston. *Gray, Henry, Gray, Horace, Boston. Gray, John C. 66 Green, J. S. Copley, Greenwood, Mrs. Bally K., Sherbern. *Grew, John, Boston. Hale, E. J. M., Haverkill. Hall, Mrs. Jueeph F., Groton. *Hammatt, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Hammond, Rev. William B., Braintree. Hammond, Mrs Louise M. Hardwick, Thomas, Quincy. Hastings, Hollis, Framingham. Hatch, Benjamin, East Falmouth. Hawes, Cynthia, Wrentham. Hayward, Elias, Braintres. Hayward, Paul, Ashby. Headley, Rev. P. C., Greenfield. Heard, John, Ipswich. Hersey, Jacob, Fozbero'. *Higginson, Stephen, Jr., Boston. Hildreth, Mrs. Mary R., Groton. *Hill, Henry, Boston. Hill, Jotham, Woburn. *Holmes, Rav. Ahiel, Cambridge. Holmes, Miss E. A., Andover Homer, Charles W., Cambridge. Hooker, George B., Skerbern. Hooper, Rubert, Boston. Hoppin, Rev. James M., Salem. Hovey, George O., Boston. How, Frederick, Danvers. *How, James, Besten. *Howe, John, Boston. Howes, Collins, Chatham. Howard, Cary, North Bridgewater. Howard, David, Hoyt, Mrs. Maria, Framingham. Hulbert, Charles, Boston. Humphrey, Daniel, North Weymouth. *Hydop, David, Besten. Jackson, James, *Jackson, Patrick T. " Jephson, Miss C. R., Brookline. Johnson, Mrs. Emma E., Bradford. Johnson, Mrs. S. W., Farmington, N. H. Joy, Mrs. Abigail, Boston. Keep, N. C. Keith, Albert, Campelle. Keith, Azza B., North Bridgewater.

Koith, Charles, North Bridgewater. Kendall, Mrs. Abel M., Boston. Kerr, Robert W., Fozbere'. Kerr, Jane K. Kettelle, Jacob Q., Beston. Kunball, David, Bradfurd. Kingman, Miss Sarah, Boston. *Knowles, Rev. James D. " Knox, Mrs. S., Rock Island, Ill. Lamson, Edwin, Buston. Lameon, Mrs. Edwin, " Lameon, Helen, Lane, Richmond J., East Abington. Langworthy, Rev. Isaac P., Chelsea. Lannon, Helen, Boston. Larkin, Lydia E., St. Anthony, M. T. *Lawrence, Amos, Boston. Lawience, Asa, Groton. La wrence, Mrs. M. A. Lawrence, Curtie, Lawrence, Mrs. Nancy T., Carlisle. Leach. Simeon, Stoughton. Leavitt, Mrs. Elizabeth G., Roston. Leeds, Benjamin, Brooklins. Leeds, Benjamin, Jr. " Loeds, Mrs. Anne B. Leeds, Miss Anne G. Lefavour, Issacher, Beverly. Leland, Calvin J., Natick. Leonard, Eliza, Fozbore'. Leonard, James M., Bridgewater. Lincoln, F. W., Boston. Lincoln, Nouh, Little, Rev. E. G., North Middleboro'. Livermore, George, Cambridge. *Locke, Ephraim, Beston. Lucke, Miss Mary O., Bradford. Loom s, Rev. E., Littleton. Lowell, Rev. Charles, Boston. Lumb, William, " Lyman, Rev. George, Sutton. Manning, Edward W., Woburn. Marsh, E. J., Groton. Marsh, Miss Julia M., Haverhill. *Marston, William, Boston. *McKean, William, *McLean, Mrs. Ann, " Means, Rev. John O., Rezbury. Means, Mrs. John O. Messenger, Miss Eliza, Fitchburg. Mills, Rev. C. L., North Bridgewater. Mills, Mrs. Rebecca B. Mixter, Mrs. Fanny L., Boston. Mixter, Mrs. Mary R., Hardwick. Mixter, Mrs. S. E., Rock Island, Ill. Moore, Rev. George, Andover. Moors, Rufus, Groten. Mordough, Rev. John H., Hamilton. Morley, Rev. S. B., Attleboro'. Morse, Charles N., Fezboro'. Morse, Miss Emily A., Bradford. Morse, Henry, Natick. Munger, Rev. Theodore T., Derchester. Murray, Kev. James O., Soula Danv Murray, Mrs Julia R. Nason. Rev Elius, Medford. *Newell, Montgomery, Boston. Nightingale, Rev. Crawford, Groton. Norcross, Josiah. South Reading. Nourse, Daniel, West Medway. Noyes, Alva, North Bridgewater. Odlin, Benjamin, Ezeter, N. H. Odlin, Mrs. E. T. Ordway, Aaron I., New York city. Ordway, Miss Charlotte, Bradford. Packard, Rev. D. Temple, Compelle. Paine, Mrs. Sarah M., Holden. *Palmer, Rev. Stephen, Needham.

Park, John C., Boston. *Parker, John, " Parker, Mrs. Sarah, Parkman, Rev. Francis,
Parkman Samuel, 46 Parkmao, Mrs. Sarah, 44 *Parsons, Gorham, Parsons, William, Partridge, Joseph, Holliston. Patrick, Rev. Henry J., Bedford. Paul, Luther, Newton.
Pearmon, Miss Hannah J., Lowell. Peckhain, Hubbard, Petersham. *Perkins, James, Boston. *Perkins, James, *Perkins, James, Jr. *Perkins, Thomas H. Perley, Jacob, South Danvers. Peters, Edward D., Boston. Pettre, Miss Eliza J., Foxboro'. Pottee, Samuel Gardner, Stoughton. Phillips, Alonzo P., South Danvers. Phillips, Mrs. Sally, Boston. *Phillips, William, "Pickard, Rev. Daniel W., Groveland. Pierpont, Rev. John, Medford. Pond. Almira W., South Malden. Pond, Juhn P., Boston Pond, Mrs. Nancy, Medway. Porter, Samuel S., Winchester. Pratt, Cornelius, North Weymouth Pratt, Gulen, North Bridgewater. Pratt, Norton, Braintree *Prescott, William, Boston. Prince, Rev. J. M., Georgetown. Prince, Mrs. Sarah B. Proctor, Thorndike, South Danvers. Quincy, Thomas D., Dorchester. Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth, Lawrence. Rico, Mrs. Henry A. Rich, Rev. A. B., Beverly. Richards, Mrs. A. M., Boston. Richardson, Benjamin P., Boston. Richardson, Luther, Winchester. Richardson, Sumner, *Ritchie, Andrew, Jr., Boston. Robbins, Andrew, Groton. Robbins, Rev. Chandler, D. D., Beston. *Robbins, Edward H. Roberts, Rev. Jacob, East Medicay. Roberts, Mrs. Mary A. Robinson, H. W., North Bridgewater. Rockwood, John, Groton Rockwood, Miss Polly S., Askland. *Rogers, Rev William M., Boston. Sawtell, Ephraim, Groton *Salisbury, Samuel, Boston. Sargent, L. M. " Scudder, Charles, Selfridge, Thomas O. Shattuck, Andrew, Groton. Shaw, Mrs. Hannah, Boston. Sheldon, Rev. Luther, Westboro'. Sheldon, Mrs. Sarah H. Shiverick, Miss Maria L., Campello. *Sigourney, Andrew, Boston. Sigourney, Henry, *Slack, Ruggles, Boston. Slafter, Rev. Edmund F., Boston. Smith, Rev. Edward P., Pepperell. Smith, Rev. Matson M., Breokline. Smith, Mrs. Matson M. Smith, Richard, South Danvers.

Smith, Mrs. Charlotte, South Danvers. *Smith, Samuel, Boston Snow, Mrs. Caroline, Newton. Snow, Mrs. Mark, Chatham. Spooner, W. B., Boston. Studdard, L. T., Bronkline. Stone, Rev. Andrew L., Boston. Stone, Mrs. Matilda F. " Sumner, Mrs. H. H., Fozboro'. Tappan, John, Buston. Teele, Rev. Albert K., Milton. Teele, Mrs. Cornelia C. Temple, Mark M., Reading. Thatcher, Mary Ludlow, Middlebore'. Thayer, Amasa, Braintres. Thayer, Ira, Thayer, Mrs. Lilla, "Thayer, Robert H., Rozbury. Tolman, Rev. Samuel H., Wilmington. Torrey, Miss Elizabeth L., South Weymouth. Torrey, James, North Weymouth. Trask, Mrs. A. H., Manchester. Tucker, Rev. Elijah W., Lebanon, Ct. Tucker, Mrs. Hannah W. Tucker, Jesse, Milton. Tucker, Nathan, Tucker, William, Dorchester. Tuttle, Miss Sarah, Andover. Tuttle, Thomas, Littleton. Twichell, John M., Fitchburg. l'yler, Jerome W., Boston. Vose, Willium H., Fitchburg. Wakofield, Miss C., Reading Wales, Erastus, *East Randolph*. Walker, Moses, Haverhill. *Walley, Samuel H., Boston. Ward, Artemas, Boston. Welch, John, Weld, James Wells, Mrs. Martha D., Northboro'. Wellman, Rev. J. W , Newton Wendell, Mrs. Catharine, Boston. Whitcomb, Lewis, East Randolph. Whitcomb, Reuben, H**ar**vard. Whitcomb, Reuben, Jr. Whitcomb, Mrs. Abby F. Whitcomb, Mrs. Louisa D. Whitcomb, Miss Mary M. *White, James, Boston. White, Josiah, Peterskam. White, Newton, *East Randolph*. Whitney, Charles H., Fitchburg. Whitney, Mrs. Permelia V., Petersham. *Wigglesworth, Thomas, Boston. Wilcox, Rev. William H., Reading. Wild, Daniel, Boston. Wilson, Rev. Thomas, Stoughton. Winslow, Pelhum, East Abington. Winthrop, Robert C., Boston. *Winthrop, Thomas L. " *Winthrop, Thomas L. Withington, Otis, Brookline. Wolcott, William, Danvers. Woodbury, Simon J., Sutton. Wood, Elizabeth C., Fozboro'. Woods, Miss Abhie Wheeler, Malden. Woods, Joseph Wheeler, Boston. Woods, Samuel H. Woodward, Ebenezer, Newton. *Worthington, William, Boston. Wiley, Mrs. Ann E., South Reading. Wyman, William G., Fitchburg.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

RECEIPTS FROM MAY 1, 1858 TO MAY 1, 1859.

SUFFOLK COUNTY.

Boston,	Society of	Rev. I)r. Ads	ıms, E	Issex S	Street	,	•	•	\$ 182	04
66	66	Rev. 1	Mr. De	xter, I	Pine S	treet,	. •	•	•	33	91
44	46	Rev. I	dr. Kir	k, Mo	unt V	ernor	1,	•	•	81	93
66	66	Rev. I	Or. Rol	bbins,	Secon	d Ch	urch,	(10	L. X.) 242	00
46	46	Rev. 1	Ir. Sto	ne, Pa	ark St	reet,	•	•	•	132	40
46	Central C	hurch a	nd Soc	iety,	•	•	•	•	•	52	15
4.6	Bowdoin 8	Street C	hurch	and S	ociety		•	•	•	91	41
66	Shawmut	Church	and 8	ociety	,	•	•	•	•	41	50
46	Bromfield	Street :	Method	list Ep	piscop	al Ch	urch,	•	•	30	24
66	North Ru	ssell Str	eet Me	thodis	st Epis	scopa	l Chu	rch,	•	16	51
66	M. Knight		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	20	00
44	A friend,	\$ 3; do.	. \$1;	•	•	•	•	•	•	4	00
Chelsea,	Broadway	Churc	h, (1 L	. X. A.	. B. S.)	•	•	•	55	05
										\$ 983	14
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	ry, Society Dane Stre		. L. T	homps	on,	Y. •	•	•	•	•	50 00
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Beverly,	Dane Stre Washingt A friend,	et Chu on Stre	c. L. The chand et Chu	homps l Socie rch an	on, ety, id Soc		•	•	•	42 17 5	00 00
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Beverly, " Boxford Byfield, Danvers " Georgete Glouces Hamilto	Dane Street Washingt A friend, Congregate Society of Maple Street South, Court, Society South, Courter, Evanger on, Congregate	et Church Street Church Rev. Mareet Church C	church and tional ev. Mr. Church arch arch arch arch arch arch arch a	homps I Socie rch an and Socks, \$ nd Soc Churc Beec and Soc h and	oon, ety, d Society 9 26 eiety, h and her, ociety,	iety, ; \$5 Socie	20; ety, (•	•	42 17 5 30 14 20 51 43 20 20	00 00 00 46 00 61 00 79
Beverly, " Boxford Byfield, Danvers " Georgete Glouces Hamilto	Dane Street Washingt A friend, Congregate Society of Maple Street, South, Cown, Society South, Cown, Society	et Church Street Church Rev. Mareet Church C	church and tional ev. Mr. Church arch arch arch arch arch arch arch a	homps I Socie rch an and Socks, \$ nd Soc Churc Beec and Soc h and	oon, ety, d Society 9 26 eiety, h and her, ociety,	iety, ; \$5 Socie	20; ety, (•	•	42 17 5 30 14 20 51 43 20 20 141	00 00 00 46 00 61 00 79

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	30	80
West Cambridge, Orthodox Congregational Church and S	0-	
Townsend, Congregational Church and Society,	. 14	64
Tewksbury, A friend,	. 10	00
Shirley, Congregational Church and Society,	. 11	50
Saxonville, Edwards Church,	. 9	83
Pepperell, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	. 34	25
West, Congregational Church and Society, .	. 31	88
" First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	. 45	73
Newton, Eliot Church, (3 L. M.)	. 75	00
Natick, Methodist Episcopal Church,	. 5	00
" Mrs. Zadock Rogers, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	. 30	00
" Kirk Street Church and Society,	. 35	42
" High Street Church and Society,		11
Lowell, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		35
Littleton, Congregational Church and Society,	•	70
Hopkinton, First Cong. Church and Society, (bal. 1 L. M. A.		00
Holliston, Congregational Church and Society,	•	00
Framingham, Hollis Evangelical Society,		00
Concord, Union Bible Society, (4 L. M. A. B. S.)	. 120	
Cambridgeport, First Evangelical Church and Society, .	. 34	06
Cambridge, Shepard Congregational Society,	. 161	
Boxboro', Congregational Church and Society,		25
Auburndale, Congregational Church and Society,		18
Ashland, Congregational Church and Society, (bal. 1 L. M.)	•	03
Ashby, Congregational Church and Society,	. \$5	34
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.		
	\$ 783	91
Wenham, Congregational Church and Society,	. 13	03
Salem, South Church,	. 48	11
Rowley, Society of Rev. J. Pike,	. 50	00
Rockport, First Congregational Church and Society, .	. 15	00
Belleville, Society of Rev. Mr. Fiske, (1 L. M. A	.в. s.) 62	26
Betsey L. Colman's pupils,	• .	44
Newburyport, Society of Rev. R. Campbell,	. 36	00
Methuen, Society of Rev. Mr. Phillips, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		25
Lynn, Central Congregational Church and Society, .	. 24	03
Ipswich, Society of Rev. Mr. Fitz,	. 33	00

WORCESTER COUNTY.

	RUESIER	COUNT	4.				
Charlton, Congregational (Church and S	ociety.	•		•	\$ 20	11
East Douglas, Congregation		• •	tv.	•	•	•	00
Fitchburg, Religious Chari			• •	5.)	•		49
Grafton, Cong. Church and	<u>-</u>	•		-			00
Harvard, Congregational C	• •		•	•	•		58
Lancaster, A friend, unknown			•	•	•		00
Lunenburg, Congregational	•	Society.	-	•	•		84
Princeton, Congregational		•	•	•	•		68
Royalston, Society of Rev.		•	•	•	•		76
Southboro', Pilgrim Evang			· rioty	•	•		37
Spencer, Congregational Cl			•	•	•		00
Sterling, Evangelical Church		• • •	•	•	•		55
Upton, Mrs. Lucy Fisk,	· ·	•	•	•	•		00
Westboro', Evangelical Chy			•	•	•	_	30
" Officers of the		• •	(1 T.)	• •	, ,		00
Westminster, Cong. Church			-			•	00
Whitinsville, Cong. Church		•			6.7	144	
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Chicopee, Master Edward I the Bible to the West, by Donations,	Mosman's of his mother,	dying be	quest •	•	-	\$ 2 675 30	50 00
Chicopee, Master Edward I the Bible to the West, by Donations,	Mosman's of his mother,	dying be	quest •	•	and	\$ 2 675 30	50 00 00 92
Chicopee, Master Edward I the Bible to the West, by Donations,	Mosman's of his mother,	dying be	quest • • •	•	and	\$ 2 675 30 6	50 00 00 92
Chicopee, Master Edward I the Bible to the West, by Donations,	Mosman's of his mother,	dying be	quest • •	to se	and	\$ 2 675 30 6 \$ 714	50 00 00 92 42
Chicopee, Master Edward I the Bible to the West, by Donations,	Mosman's of his mother,	dying be	quest • •	to se	and	\$ 2 675 30 6 \$ 714	50 00 00 92 42
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Chicopee, Master Edward I the Bible to the West, by Donations, Friend, (1 L. M. A. B. S.) Wilbraham, South Parish, FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE Bernardston, Orthodox Con	ANKLIN CO	dying be OUNTY OUNTY Church a	quest	to se	nd	\$ 2 675 30 6 \$ 714 field, 7	50 00 00 92 42
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Chicopee, Master Edward I the Bible to the West, by Donations, Friend, (1 L. M. A. B. S.) Wilbraham, South Parish, FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE Bernardston, Orthodox Cor Buckland, Congregational Church Gill, Congregational Church	ANKLIN CO Society.—March and Society hand Society	OUNTY. OUNTY. Church a society, ciety,	quest	iot, (ond	\$ 2 675 30 6 \$ 714 \$ 3 20 73 6	50 00 92 42 7. 67 00 16 43
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South Deerfield, First Congregational Church and Society,		
(2 L. M.) (1 do. A. B. S.)	71	60
Monument Church and Society, (1 L. M.).	21	00
Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society,	27	66
Warwick, Trinitarian Church and Society,	7	33
West Hawley, Second Congregational Church and Society, .	1	00
	\$ 451	98
Deduct paid for printing,	12	00
	\$ 439	98
NORFOLK COUNTY.		
Cohasset, Second Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 13	69
Dorchester, Second Congregational Church and Society,	205	56
Foxboro', Orthodox Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	39	96
Franklin, Congregational Church and Society, (bal. 3 L. M.).	46	17
Jamaica Plain, Rev. A. Quint,	2	00
Medway, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	25	00
" Village, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	22	64
Milton, First Evangelical Church and Society,	26	76
Quincy, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	5 0	00
Randolph, East, Winthrop Church, (3 L. M.)	61	79
Roxbury, Eliot Church,	89	36
Warren Street Meth. Epis. Church, (1 L. M. A. B. s.)	30	00
" A friend, (1 L. M.)	20	00
Stoughton, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) .	23	03
Weymouth, North, Pilgrim Church and Society,	20	00
" Society of Rev. Mr. Emery,	24	26
" South, Society of Rev. Mr. Terry,		00
" Union Church and Society,	14	11
Wrentham, Congregational Church and Society,	9	00
	\$ 741	33
BRISTOL COUNTY.		
Easton, Evangelical Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	\$ 30	00
Pawtucket, A friend,		00
	\$ 65	00
PLYMOUTH COUNTY.		
	2 22	00
Abington, First Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	\$ 33	
more cong. Charen and Society, (1 2. A. in part,)		21
boun, cong. charen and bouch, (I in a. a. b. s.)	-	00
" East, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	26	UU

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Hanover, Second Congregational Church and Society,	7	42
Kingston, Second Congregational Church and Society,	9	50
Lakeville, Society of Rev. Mr. Root,	11	00
Middleboro', First Parish,	67	53
" Central Congregational Church and Society, .	14	
" North Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	21	
North Bridgewater, Porter Evan. Church and Society, (3 L. M.)	60	
Plymouth, Second Church and Society,	5	06
Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,	8	59
Scituate, Evangelical Church and Society,	5	10
	\$ 312	74
BARNSTABLE COUNTY.		
BARNSTABLE COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY John Munroe, Treas	urer.	
Barnstable, West Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 7	በበ
	•	
Centreville, Congregational Church and Society,	18	
Chatham, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	21	-
Dennis, Congregational Church and Society,	17	00
Falmouth, East, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,)	12	00
	\$ 75	63
MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS.		
Derry, N. H., Miss Abby Choate, (bal. 1 L. M. A. B. S.).	\$ 20	00
Exeter, N. H., A friend, (1 L. M.)	20	00
" A friend, \$3; do. by N. P. Kemp, \$9;	12	00
Henniker, N. H., Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	24	22
Keene, N. H., Mr. Simeon N. Perry,	190	00
Titaleton W II William Decelerate For		00
Littleton, N. II., William Drackett, Esq		-
	\$ 271	22
COLLECTIONS		
By the Rev. E. F. SLAFTER, Agent of the American Bible Soc	ciet u .	
	_	99
St. Andrew's Church, Norwich, Vt	\$ 2	
St. Thomas' Church, Hanover, N. H		67
St. James' Church, Greenfield,	13	65
St. John's Church, Northampton, by a member,	30	00
Grace Church, Newton Corner,	17	00
Church of the Messiah, Boston,	41	18
St. Paul's Church, Boston,	345	00
St. Paul's Church, Brookline, \$77; Benjamin Leeds, Esq. \$80;		
St. Mary's Church, Dorchester,		
	30	በበ
St Paul's Church Maurhumant	30 95	
St. Paul's Church, Newburyport,	25	

St. Michael's Church, Marbl	ehea	d,	•	•		•	•	•	41	11
St. Peter's Church, Salem,	\$ 54	74;	ded.	\$4	74,	cre	dited	to		
Bible account,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	5 0	00
Trinity Church, Haverhill,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	13	83
Christ Church, Waltham,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	20	00
St. John's Church, Jamaica	Plain	۱, .	•	•		•	•	•	41	52
Grace Church, Boston, .	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	58	65
St. Matthew's Church, South	h Bo	ston,	•	•		•	•	•	10	00
Grace Church, Medford,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	10	00
Trinity Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	258	26
St. Paul's Church, Auburnd	ale,	•	•	•		•	•	•	5	00
St. Andrew's Church, Hano	ver,	•	•	•		•	•	•	67	64
Grace Church, Lawrence,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	20	00
St. Paul's Church, Dedham,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	45	50
Christ Church, Boston, .	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	10	00
Christ Church, Westerly, R.	I.	•	•	•		•	•	•	10	00
G., Newton Corner, .	•	•	•.	•		•	•	•	5 0	00
Rev. George C. Shepard, D.	D.,	•	•	•		•	•	•	30	00
								\$	1,414	95

[Other collections made by Mr. Slafter in Massachusetts, have been paid through other Auxiliary Societies.]

LEGACIES.

Beverly, H. O. Foster, by Da Boston, Charles H. Brown,			-	-				\$ 100	00
be invested, and the incom	e or	ıly us	ed,	•	•	•	•	1,000	00
							\$	1,100	00
Annual subscriptions, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	\$ 652	00
Returns for books donated,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	7	05
Interest and dividends, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	1,095	75
Proceeds of horse and wagon	1 80]	ld,	•	•	•	•	•	50	00
Sales at the Depository,	•	•		•		•	•	12,889	50
Whole amount acknowledged	d in	the p	reced	ling li	sts,	•	\$	23,258	76

Pecuniary remittances and letters relating to the business of the Depository, and orders for Books, should be addressed to S. T. FARWELL, Agent, No. 15 Cornhill, Boston.

ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY THE

- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING

IN BOSTON,

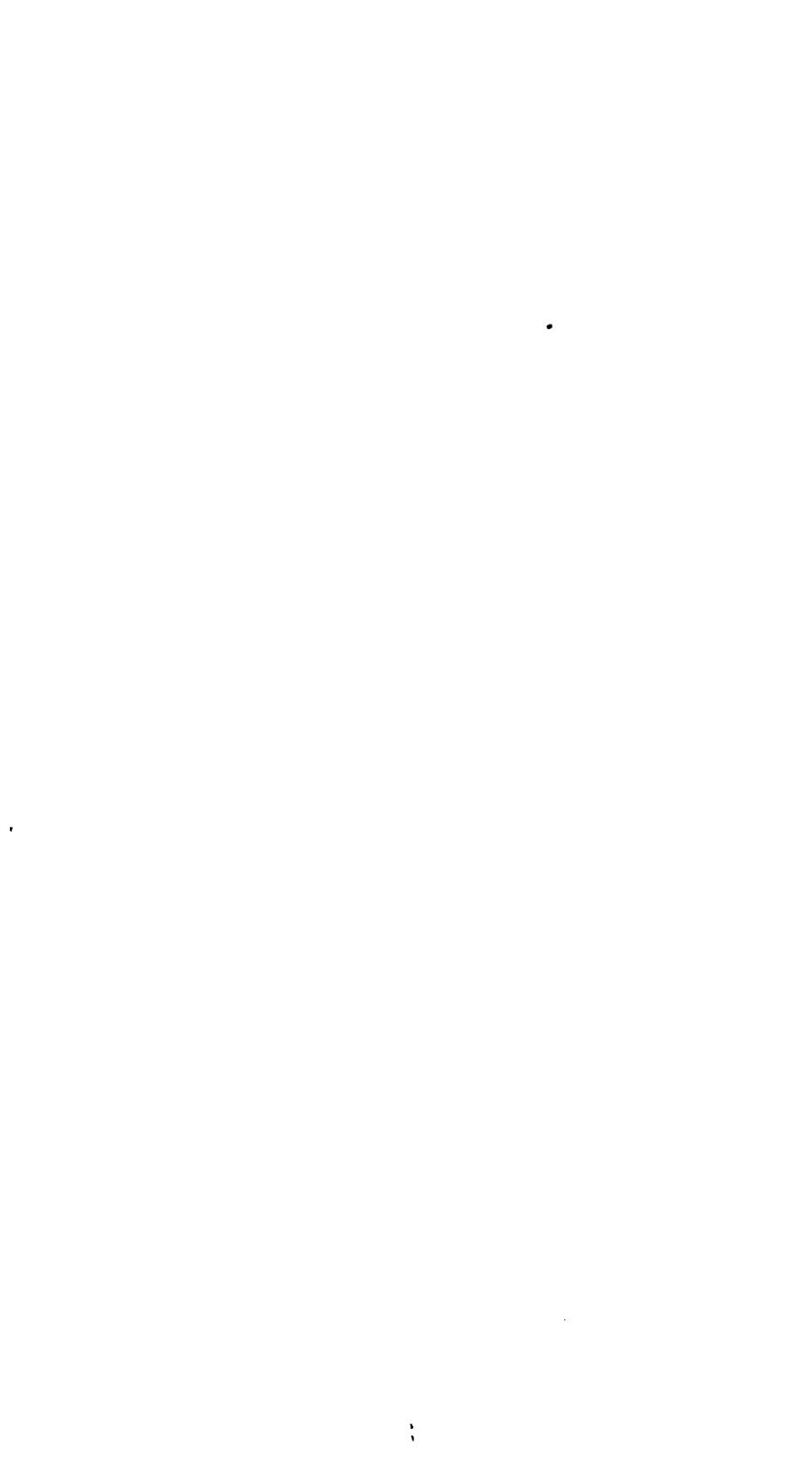
MAY 28, 1860, BEING THE FIFTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON, 42 CONGRESS ST.

1860.



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OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY FOR 1860-61.

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REV. DANIEL BUTLER,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Rec. Secretary
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Stephen Fairbanks,
William Appleton,
Nathaniel H. Emmons, Esqs.

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TO WHOM APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE MADE FOR RIBLES.

REV. JOHN O. MEANS, GEO. R. SAMPSON, Esq., and ALBERT FEARING, Esq.

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TREASI	JRERS.	
Samuel H. Walley, Esq 1809—11 Hon. Peter O. Thacher, 1811—12 John Tappan, Esq 1812—35	Henry Edwards, Esq	
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ANNUAL REPORT.

The operations of the Massachusetts Bible Society, for the past year, have been marked by little that is peculiar. The friends of the Bible have bestowed upon it their usual gifts, and these have found their way, as in other years, to the poor and unsupplied, within our reach.

The fact deserves our grateful recognition, that all who were officially connected with the Society a year ago, are yet with us, permitted to bear, still longer, the heat and burden of their day.

During the year, there have been issued from the Depository, 14,925 Bibles; 16,003 Testaments; 3,543 Testaments with the Psalms; and 706 Psalms; making a total of 35,177. Of these, 31,547 were in the English, and 1,630 in various foreign languages.

The gratuitous issues have been 5,422 Bibles; 3,951 Testaments; 426 Testaments with the Psalms; and 18 Psalms; making a total of 9,817 copies.

These have been appropriated as follows: to seamen, 2,983; to Sabbath and other schools, 1,772; to public institutions and public houses, 802; to

city missions, 578; to destitute families and individuals in Massachusetts, 2,572; and the balance, 1,110, in Maine, 317; New Hampshire, 6; Vermont, 53; Connecticut, 60; Michigan, 102; Illinois, 37; Missouri, 75; Texas, 32; Kanzas, 15; Canada, 24; Nova Scotia, 24; Labrador, 88; Prince Edward Islands, 24; Hayti, 103; and Liberia, 150.

The income of the Society for the year ending April 30 has been \$21,192.57; of which were from donations, legacies, and annual subscriptions, \$8,890.21; from sales, \$11,121.88; returned for books granted, \$9.18; interest and dividends on stocks, \$1,172.00. The amount in the Treasury at the commencement of the year was \$2,281.21, making the total available means, \$23,473.78.

The expenditures during the year have been, in all, \$20,997.04; of which were for Bibles and Testaments, \$14,462.86; donations to the American Bible Society, \$2,290.10; and the balance in various expenditures of Depository, general and depository agents and assistant, printing, rent, paper, &c., &c., \$4,244.08; leaving a balance in the Treasury of \$1,444.24.

It will be perceived that the seamen visiting this port are the largest sharers of our bounty—thus, through our widely extended and extending commerce, the Scriptures are carried to the ends of the earth. Many of these children of the sea here receive the Bible in the languages they speak, and they leave them, in greater or less numbers, in all the lands to which they are borne.

To the unsupplied poor of this city and its suburbs, gathered to a great extent from other lands, large grants have been made through city missions, and through individuals laboring for their welfare.

To public houses, the resting-place of the wayfarer; to prisons and hospitals; in fine, to all those institutions established amongst us to meet the various forms of suffering humanity, the Scriptures have been given.

Sabbath schools gathered among the neglected children in our cities and large towns have shared freely the bounty of the Society, as the statements already made have shown.

Individuals and families destitute of the Scriptures have been supplied. This has been done in response to the application of those in want, or through the various associations formed for this and kindred purposes. A direct effort has also been made to circulate the Scriptures. Through the year, a Bible colporter has been employed in a portion of the counties of Essex and Norfolk. Thus far, in these two counties, 22,758 families have been visited, and 8,087 copies of the Bible and New Testament have been sold or gratuitously disposed of.

It is in vain that we strive to estimate the good accomplished in these tens of thousands of family visits, by the humble, self-denying Bible colporter. Eternity alone will disclose how the sad heart was cheered, the erring one turned from the downward

path, the afflicted and sorrowful made to rejoice, by the timely perusal of God's Word, carried to their door by your colporter, giving them assurance of a Heavenly Father's willingness to pardon, and to suffer them to lean upon his own Almighty arm for support.

The Secretary of your Society, the Rev. Mr. Butler, has pursued his labors the past year with energy, fidelity, and success. We see the result of his faithful efforts in behalf of the Bible cause, in the increased interest, manifested throughout the State, for a more general diffusion of the Word of God. The Society has cause of congratulation, in having in its employ one whose whole heart is in this self-denying but glorious work.

The Rev. Mr. Slafter has continued his acceptable and useful labors in behalf of this cause among the Episcopal churches of this State.

While thus attending to the wants at home, we have not forgotten that the field is the world. During the year, there has been forwarded to the American Bible Society, from the Massachusetts Bible Society, and from other sources in the State, the sum of \$34,916.63. We rejoice that so much has been accomplished, while we cannot conceal the conviction that more might have been done, and should have been done, by the numerous friends of the Bible in this favored Commonwealth.

By whom are the extensive destitutions in our land to be supplied, if not, in part at least, by us; and from whence more appropriately than from this community can come a response to the cry for the Word of Life that greets us from the nations of the Old World? Plainly, we can confine our labors within our own limits, only by doing violence to the spirit of the Book we circulate.

There are many who glory in the name of Protestant, and who regard the possession of the Scriptures by all men as of the highest importance, who do absolutely nothing for their diffusion; while of those who give, there are few who might not innocently increase their offerings in furtherance of this work. The vast increase in the number of those able to read; the growing toleration of governments, pagan and papal, allowing the circulation of the Scriptures where hitherto they have been proscribed, and the awakened interest throughout Christendom, and in many portions of the heathen world, enlarges our field, and increases, in the same proportion, our responsibilities as friends of the truth.

At a great price were the Scriptures obtained for us. Our fathers cheerfully suffered the loss of all things, that they might possess, in their own tongue, the Word of God. In poverty, in exile, in prison, and at the stake, they manifested their love of divine truth, and their desire to gain for it a free course through the world. Not the least valuable part of the rich inheritance they have bequeathed to us is the history of their struggles and their triumphs, as the defenders of a free and open Bible. While we dwell in the land they procured for us—while we revere their memories and profess their principles—let us be careful to perform their works.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Fifty-first Annual Meeting of the BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS, was held in the upper vestry of the Central Church, Winter Street, Boston, on Monday, May 28, 1860; the President, Hon. Samuel H. Walley, in the chair.

The Annual Report of the Treasurer was read and accepted.

The Annual Report of the Executive Committee was presented, and the reading thereof postponed to the public meeting.

SAMUEL MAY, Esq., having declined to be a candidate for re-election to the office of Auditor, on motion of George R. Sampson, Esq., seconded by Hon. Albert Fearing, it was

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Samuel May, Esq., for his long and faithful services as Auditor of the Society.

Voted, That the Secretary be requested to transmit to Mr. May a copy of the foregoing vote.

The officers of the Society for the ensuing year were chosen.

The members of the Society then proceeded to the church, where the public services of the Anniversary were held.

The Scriptures were read and prayer offered by Rev. Jos. A. Copp, D. D., of Chelsea, Mass.

The President of the Society, Hon. Samuel H. Walley, of Boston, then addressed the assembly as follows:

It is obviously fit, that the interesting exercises of this week should be ushered in with the Anniversary of the Bible Society; and this is true, not simply on the ground that the Bible lies at the foundation of all our religious institutions, but that its essential truths, its acknowledged teachings, and its sublime morality, furnish the surest guaranty for the perpetuity of our civil institutions, and the continuance of our happy republic.

We see much to alarm us, in the rapid increase of wealth and luxury in our country—especially when we call to mind the causes of the downfall of the enlightened republics of former days—but we are cheered and animated by the reflection, that we possess an antidote which they did not enjoy; the Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus.

It is esteemed an honor to be the pupil of those who are regarded as among the most gifted of scholars, and the most learned of mankind; what an honor, then, to have God for our teacher, and his precepts for our guide!

It has been well said, by the first scholar of our land and the most eloquent son of our Commonwealth, that "the public law of Christendom, in its utmost comprehension, is but the expansion and application, to the affairs of nations, of the principle inculcated in our Saviour's sermon on the mount: 'All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.'"

The fact that we enjoy such a distinguished blessing, in having the Bible for our birthright, while it should awaken within us deep gratitude for our privileges, and well-founded confidence that our nation may hope to outlast those of former days, to whom life and immortality were not brought to light,—also devolves upon us a solemn and a twofold responsibility; solemn, because each individual is bound to feel that he is personally concerned with the improvement of the privilege granted; two-fold, because it devolves upon us, who have the teachings of God, to see that they are offered, (certainly as freely, as we offer the advantages of common-school education,) to all in our own land, who will avail themselves of the opportunity; and not

only at home, but abroad. 'Freely we have received, let us freely give.' If the Bible, and the blessings of civil and religious liberty which the Bible inculcates, and which our Pilgrim Fathers (imbued with the principles of the Bible) transmitted to us as their legacy, have made our nation prosperous and happy, as we are at this day, and exalted us as a people so much above those of other days, does not it become us—are we not solemnly bound to give the precious Word of God to all the unevangelized nations of the earth? Shall the seamen, who sail from our ports to distant continents and sea-girt isles, carry life or death; the word of life, or the instruments of death temporal and death eternal? Let no vessel sail hence, without the Bible in the cabin, in the forecastle, and as part of the freight; then will the sails which whiten the ocean be as angels' wings, bearing glad tidings of good things to all nations.

It is cheering to learn from the last Report of the American Bible Society, that the work of general supply has made encouraging progress, and that grants of money have been made, the past year, for publishing and circulating the Scriptures in Spanish America, France, Germany, Italy, Turkey, Syria, India, China, Africa, and the Sandwich Islands, aside from the funds expended at the Bible House in printing foreign versions.

At a recent meeting in London of the friends of the *Malta* Protestant College, the following statement was made by one of the reverend speakers who addressed the meeting.

There are fifty millions of Mohammedans in the Turkish Empire, Persia, and Tartary; and until lately it has been generally supposed to be impossible to bring any of them into the fold of Christ; but within four years nine thousand Bibles have been sold among the Turks of Constantinople alone. Dr. Pfanders, the agent of the Church Missionary Society at Constantinople, who was engaged in superintending the translation and printing of the Bible in the Turkish and other languages, was assisted in his important work by two born Mohammedans, who were educated in the Malta College. Still more wonderful, however, added the speaker, was the fact, that there was at that moment at Jerusalem a Bible class, consisting of eighty Turkish soldiers, and, he believed, seven officers, who regularly met to read the Scriptures, under the guidance of Bishop Gobat.

The openings in the East were not confined to Turkey; they were cqually wonderful in other countries. For example, as regarded the nomadic Arabs, commonly known as the Bedouin Arabs, the Rev. Mr. Brown, a Scotch minister stationed at Aleppo, said, that the Consul,

Mr. Skeene, was fully persuaded that the time had arrived when the Bible might easily be introduced among those wandering tribes.

A late writer on the religious aspect of Europe speaks of a singular and wonderful movement among the Mohammedans in Turkey—a movement started among themselves, under the guidance of one of their own teachers, breaking down their prejudices against the gospel, and leading them to respect the Christianity they have hitherto despised. He adds, that it comes to us attested by one of the most esteemed and cautious of our missionaries there. "Thousands of Bibles are bought with avidity, and tens of thousands of people, who still follow the false prophet, are honoring Christ and his teachers. What hath God wrought!"

The President of the American Bible Society recently addressed a letter to most of the crowned heads of the old world, to which he has received interesting and appropriate replies. Accompanying the President's letter to each monarch, was a very beautiful and highly finished copy of the Word of God, as published by the American Bible Society, inclosed in a rose-wood box; which copies were furnished for this purpose, by the munificence of one of our esteemed fellow-citizens.

Without detaining you to listen to any of this correspondence, I venture to read the reply of the King of the Sandwich Islands to the delegation which presented the Letter and the Bible to him. It is rendered doubly interesting from the fact, that the writer speaks of a nation so recently emerged from barbarism, and which, within the recollection of some now present, actually destroyed their idols, and waited for God's law, in literal fulfillment of prophecy, while the Missionary and the Bible were on the ocean, wending their way to these very Isles of the Sea.

The volume you present me in behalf of the American Bible Society, and the letter with which it is accompanied, I receive with a mingled feeling of pleasure and reverence. When I remember the moral illumination, and the sense of social propriety, which have spread throughout these islands, in proportion as the Holy Scriptures have been circulated, I cannot but admire and respect the human agency through which Providence has effected its benign purpose. But of all the members of the institution there is none with whom I could more gladly find myself in communication than with its Secretary, whose labors have won for

him a name, among Christian philanthropists, which might excite a world to emulation.

I will not attempt to echo the tone of fervent gratitude and admiration with which you allude to the happy changes effected by the dissemination of God's holy Word. But from the position I occupy, the facts meet me whichever way I turn my eye. I see them every day and every hour. I see principles taking root among my people, that were unknown and unintelligible to them at that dark period of our religious history to which you have referred. They have now a standard by which to judge of themselves, and of each other, as members of society. Without that standard, no law but the law of autocratic power could have ruled them. Its absence would have rendered the gift of free institutions, such as they now enjoy, a worse than useless act of magnanimity on the part of my predecessors. The commerce and intercourse with other countries, to which we owe our present prosperity, would have been checked by numberless difficulties. In one word, we see through all our relations the effect of those aspirations and principles inculcated by the Sacred Volume.

I should be wanting to myself, did I not express the gratification I feel, in seeing here present some of those who were the first to labor in the vineyard. Although they look for their reward elsewhere, they will not reject my passing tribute of respect. Their labor has been long, and their anxiety great, but their constancy and patience have equaled the emergency. The result of their life's work may even disappoint them, if they judge of it by the anticipation of their more sanguine years. Yet in their decline of life, they see some of the fruits they prayed for; and they will not complain, when they remember that the measure of their success is from above.

Allow me to thank you for your personal share in the presentation, and through you to express my kindest acknowledgments to the American Bible Society.

One of our secular papers has recently reprinted, from two numbers of the London Packet, a most striking anecdote, and one which appears to be well authenticated, illustrating not only the power of the prayer of faith, in sustaining under the severest trials, but also the power of God's Word, even upon the hardened heart of the robber and murderer.

THE LADY AND THE ROBBER.

In a large, lonely house, situated in the south of England, there once lived a lady and her two maid servants. They were far away from all human habitations, but they seemed to have felt no fear, and to have dwelt there peacefully and happily. It was the lady's custom, with her maids, to go round the house every evening to see that all the windows and doors were properly secured. One night she had accompanied them

as usual, and ascertained that all was safe. They left her in the passage close to her room, and then went to their own, which was quite at the other side of the house. As the lady opened the door, she distinctly saw a man under her bed. What could she do? Her servants were far away, and could not hear her if she screamed for help; and even if they had come to her assistance, these three weak women were no match for a desperate housebreaker. How, then, did she act? She trusted in God. Quietly she closed the door, and locked it on the inside, which she was always in the habit of doing. She then leisurely brushed her hair, and putting on her dressing gown, she took her Bible and sat down to read. She read aloud, and chose a chapter that had peculiar reference to God's watchfulness over us, and constant care of us, by night and by day. When it was finished she knelt and prayed at great length, still uttering her words aloud, especially commending herself and servants to God's protection, and dwelling upon their utter helplessness, and dependence upon Him to preserve them from all dangers. At last she rose from her knees, put out her candle, and laid down in bed; but she did not sleep. After a few minutes had elapsed, she was conscious that the man was standing by her bedside. He begged of her not to be alarmed. "I came here to rob you, but after the words you have read, and the prayers you have uttered, no power on earth could induce me to hurt you, or to touch a thing in your house. But you must remain perfectly quiet, and not attempt to interfere with me. I shall now give a signal to my companions, which they will understand, and then we will go away and you may sleep in peace; for I give you my solemn word no one shall harm you, and not the smallest thing belonging to you shall be disturbed." He then went to the window, opened it, and whistled softly. Returning to the lady's side (who had not spoken or moved) he said, "Now I am going. Your prayer has been heard, and no disaster will befall you." He left the room, and soon all was quiet, and the lady fell asleep, still upheld by that calm and beautiful faith and trust. When the morning dawned and she awoke, we may feel sure she poured out her thanksgivings and praises to Him who had "defended" her "under his wings" and "kept" her "safe under his feathers," so that she was not "afraid of any terror by night." The man was true to his word, and not a thing in the house had been taken. Oh! shall we not hope that his heart was changed from that day forth, and that he forsook his evil courses, and cried to that Saviour "who came to seek and to save that which is lost," and even on the cross did not reject the penitent thief. From this story let us learn to put our whole trust and confidence in God. This lady's courage was indeed wonderful; but "the Lord was her defense upon her right hand," and "with him all things are possible."

Additional.

We have received an extract from a letter fully corroborating the remarkable anecdote of "The Lady and the Robber" in our October

number, and adding some facts that enhance the wonder and mercy of her escape. We quote the words of the letter: "In the first place the robber told her that if she had given the slightest alarm or token of resistance, he had fully determined to murder her; so that it was God's good guidance that told her to follow the course she took." Then before he went away, he said: "I never heard such words before; I must have the book you read out of"—and carried off her Bible, willingly enough given, you may be sure. This happened many years ago, and only comparatively recently did the lady hear any more of him. She was attending a religious meeting in Yorkshire, where, after several noted clergy and others had spoken, a man arose, stating that he was employed as one of the book-hawkers of the Society, and told the story of the midnight adventure, as a testimony of the wonderful power of the Word of God. He concluded with, "I was that man." The lady rose from her seat in the hall, and said quietly, "It is all quite true; I was the lady," and sat down again.

The Annual Report was read by George R. Sampson, Esq., and the acceptance of it was moved by the Rev. William R. Nicholson, D. D., of this city, who accompanied the motion by appropriate and eloquent remarks, which we regret that we are unable to give.

Rev. George Richards was then introduced, and spoke as follows: *

MR. PRESIDENT:

By the courtesy of my associates on your committee, I stand here to speak a word for the Book which needs no man's commendation, but deserves all men's; the Book which we have been laboring together, through these years, to distribute over this Commonwealth, over the ever-spreading confederacy of States, and the wide, wide world.

As I look around me, and memory recalls other occasions like the present, the familiar forms and faces of the living blend in my imagination with forms and faces of the dead, seeming to come up with us on this annual pilgrimage, the silent yet interested witnesses of our proceedings, we and they, they and we,

^{*} This Address, first delivered substantially before the Parent Society, was repeated, at our anniversary, by request of our Committee.

pledging anew our allegiance to this holy cause. The Resolution which I am invited to advocate is as follows:

Resolved, That the advantages which the Bible, in our vernacular, has conferred on the English-speaking race, should encourage this and kindred Societies to greater efforts in extending the like blessing to all nations.

Facts, Sir, are stubborn things. Not so tractable as our theories, less easily warped and biased to carry a point, to serve a purpose; when they take the stand, as witnesses, their testimony is the more reliable. Why ought the Bible to be distributed, at great pains and cost over the world, unless it is likely to benefit the world? and to what purpose does a Book, so old, promise well for the future, if it have not performed well, in the past? You would send it to nations not yet possessed of it; what has it been doing for those who have long owned, and read, and put its capabilities to proof?

I trust no one will apprehend that, at this late hour of the day, I intend to traverse this wide field; still less, to gather in its ample harvests. Were my arm strong enough, and my sickle keen enough, too many stout reapers and loaded wains have gone on before. I design, simply, to glean after them, and add, if I may, a sheaf or two to the capacious and well-stored garner. What substantial advantages, then, have accrued to the indomitable, energetic people, of which we are a part, from the possession and use of God's Word in their mother tongue? I shall specify three, and glance at their bearings on us as a Bible publishing and Bible circulating organization.

First, the Book, whose claims I advocate, has helped to render these English-speaking communities law abiding. Travel among them, at home and abroad, and notice how, in the main, they are submissive to authority; how, almost insensibly and involuntarily, they conform to rules prescribed; how comparatively rare are wide-spread insurrections, sudden popular tumults, violent upheavings and overturnings of the foundations of society. As a general thing, on both sides the water, we go to our daily toil and return to our quiet homes; we acquire and invest property, help to establish good institutions, lay deep and broad our plans for times to come; and all, because the ægis of law is

over us, under whose shelter we feel it safe to live and labor, to devise and achieve, for our own and the generations following.

Has the Bible conduced, and how, to this prevalent security and tranquillity? It has, and in two ways. It has enlightened the mind, and quickened the conscience of the law-makers, prompting them to rear, from age to age, a system of enactments, that have had at heart the public weal, and which it is the bounden duty and interest of the citizen to respect and main-Would you promote obedience to law, see, first, that you have laws that ought to be obeyed, laws that are helps, not hinderances to virtue, that command the assent of the sound judgment and moral sense of the community. With great deference to men, whom I see about me, to whom I might better listen, I venture to affirm, that not only are specific precepts, of both the common and the statute law of England, the heir-loom that has come down to us, directly borrowed from the Hebrew and Christian codes, or closely imitated from them; but, that the fundamental maxims and principles that underlie the constitutions of both countries, were either drawn from these Divine Oracles, or are, at least, penetrated and pervaded by their just and beneficent spirit.

This Book has done another thing, no less essential; it has fostered among the governed the habit and principle of subordination. The fact that the Bible is a book, a written revelation, the thoughts of God, in the words of God, brings the reader of it into an attitude of submission. A learner, in that act, defers to his instructor. Rationalism, on the contrary, is the deification of human reason; it must think out its creed, which comes to mean, must originate, invent its religion, that is, worship itself. This overweening pride of intellect, impatient of dictation from any quarter, carries in its bosom the seeds of radicalism and revolution. Teach men reverently to read the Scriptures, and you teach them to distrust themselves, to bow to a wisdom superior to their own.

Then, again, the student of the Bible confronts God on every page, as a personal Being, as the Father, the Friend, the Sovereign, the Judge of men. Study his existence and attributes in nature, exclusively; in the stars, groves, streams; in the gigantic play of physical forces, and the steadfast recurrence of physical

phenomena, and the tendency is toward pantheism, to make every thing God, and hence nothing, to confuse and confound the Creator and the creation. Now, translate these ambiguous responses into articulate language, into words and sentences, and the mind swings back toward theism, toward Deity—a mind, addressing himself to minds, urging upon them his claims, assigning to them their duties, holding them answerable at his tribunal. The Bible reader is thus initiated, step by step, into the responsibilities of a subject. Ideas of a Ruler, and a rule, of obligation and accountability, become ingrained.

Then, too, the Scriptures expressly enjoin civil obedience, as a religious duty. The earthly magistrate represents the heavenly, and, as such, is invested with a share in his prerogatives. Divine authority enforces human. Infinite sanctions add their weight to finite. Every way, the influence of this Book is conservative. It eradicates, or tends to, the rudiments and elements of disorder. It implants in the individual, the family, the state, a wholesome loyalty. Not all the enginery of secular or ecclesiastical tyrannies; the frowning fortresses, the troops of cavalry, the bristling bayonets, the loaded cannon, the dungeon, the rack, the gibbet, can so pacify and keep quiet the masses, as can this single peace-speaking Volume, circulated, read, heeded. Look at Tuscany to-day; its Grand Duke fled, its ancient councils dissolved, its time-sanctioned restraints withdrawn; where is the guarantee of life, liberty, and property? Visit Florence, its capital, lately the prison of the Madiai, where the Scriptures had to be smuggled into the house, where men met to worship, as did the old Covenanters, in unfrequented places, under cover of the night, dogged to their retreats by an argus-eyed police; see now, on a public thoroughfare, along the banks of the Arno, three separate congregations on the Sabbath, the Scotch, the Swiss, the Vaudois, assembled round the open Word; look in on the boys' school, and the girls' school, just instituted for Italians, on the week day, and where this Bible is the text-book; see, opposite the proud sepulchres of the Medici, the new Bible depot, accessible to all, and where whosoever will may enter and provide himself; and behold in these, and the agencies and influences that emanate from these, more than in the sword or the sceptre of Sardinia, a voucher, under God, for the future peace and good order of the long desecrated and down-trodden home of Dante, and Galileo, and Michael Angelo. Man must be governed, somehow. Be in no haste to lift the ponderous yoke of political oppression, till you are ready to substitute for it the silken cords of an intelligent and conscientious submission.

My second point is, that the Bible has imbued these Englishspeaking communities with the spirit of liberty. There is an expansive force in the Anglo-Saxon nature and character, which, pent within too narrow limits, must and will assert itself, and make a way for itself. In what system of jurisprudence do you look for the Habeas Corpus, Bills of Rights, the license to bear arms, to meet in popular assemblies, to be tried by one's peers in open court, the privilege of free speech and a free press? Where can you travel to and fro without permit from the police; without a passport, to be examined and visèd at every frontier, your name, your age, your occupation, the color of your hair, the shape of your nose, the length of your chin, duly noted and recorded; your fellow traveler in the diligence, the barber who shaves you, the waiter at your table, all ears, catching up your odds and ends of talk to retail them at official quarters? Where does a perpetual suspicion surround you like the atmosphere, pursue you like your shadow, peer into your letter at the office, listen at your key-hole, bend above you in your dreams, to overhear and report? Not in England, nor America, nor in Canada, nor in Australia. And what maketh us to differ? The dissemination of the Bible largely accounts for it. A man holds in his hands a Book, which he believes to be from God, informing him of his duty, forewarning him of his destiny, proffering him its aid, in the discharge of the one, and preparation for the other; who is to lord it over him? Between these covers, bearing the seal and sign manual of Heaven, is the charter of his liberties. Living on terms of daily correspondence with the Supreme Being, he must be proportionately independent of his fellow-beings; their smile is comparatively worthless; their frown comparatively harmless; powerful and exalted though they may be, he and they are essentially on a level before that presence.

He must be somebody to have had such a Book committed to him—to be permitted to interpret it—to be competent to appre-

ciate it—so masterly in its style, so elevated in its sentiments, so profound and comprehensive in its views—and the more he reads it, the higher does it rise in his esteem, raising him with it. Not that it does not abase him; it does. What is he to what he might have been, and ought to have been—he so nobly endowed—so richly privileged; yet it, at the same time, raises him in the scale of being—teaches him to realize and to prize his manhood—equips him becomingly to assert it, and resolutely to defend it. Here, after all, is the effectual solvent, that is, to undo the heavy burden, and break every yoke. Allow no other plea for emancipation to supplant, or rival, or thrust itself in the path of this. It melts the chains at once from limb and heart. Its clear, ringing, trumpet-tongued tone "proclaims liberty to the captive, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound." Print it. Circulate it. Do nothing, say nothing that will cripple or impede your efforts in this grand enterprise of philanthropy and charity. Leave it to others, if they will, to debate questionable measures—to risk doubtful or dangerous expedients—be true to your mission, have faith in God, and with an open and liberal hand, scatter broadcast the leaves that are for the healing of the nations.

One other point, and I will relieve your attention. The Bible has made these English-speaking communities Protestant. Against what has it taught them to protest? Spiritual dogmatism, for one thing. Whatever tends to disenthral the human mind, must arm it against the aggressions of systems that are another name for Tyranny. The very alphabet of the Papal and kindred creeds, is, Stop reasoning, and believe. Implicitly confide, not in what you have found, after suitable investigation, and on satisfactory evidence, to be true, but what you are told is true by your priest, God's oracle on earth. Take his word for it, and ask no questions. Put your intellect in leading strings, and let your ghostly confessor conduct you along the tortuous and intricate path to heaven. But what if this guide does not know the way, or has a motive to mislead you? Hush! it is impiety and blasphemy to whisper it! Put your hand in his; shut your eyes; and follow him: his is the responsibility, not That doctrine does not go down with the Anglo-Saxon It involuntarily loathes it, rejects it, spues it out of its mind.

mouth. It holds with its own Milton, that "Christ in his Church, hath left no vicegerent of his power; but Himself, without deputy, is the only head thereof:"—that "there is no judge or rule, in matters of religion, but the Scriptures, and these to be interpreted by the Scriptures." How am I to know which teacher to believe, unless I possess intelligence, and use it? and if I may use it on the instructor, why not on the lesson?. God, to be sure, is infallible, and his Word final; but this cowled and shaven pretender to infallibility, where are his credentials? Reason, surely, does not pick him out of a crowd, and designate him at sight, as an unerring exponent of the divine mind and will; and if it did, he has taught me to disparage reason, and appeal from "The church so designates me," he says; but the church, according to his theory, is the mere aggregate of these pretcuders, testifying in favor of themselves, and one another. There is a more trustworthy source of information, the Book which Papist and Protestant alike assert to be the Word of God. What says it? If it says nothing; nay, if it disowns and proscribes these dogmas; if its bids every man search between these leaves as for hid treasure—"prove all things, and hold fast that which is good;" if its explicit direction is, "To the law and to the testimony, if they speak not according to this word, there is no light in them;" why what becomes of these domineering and arrogant assumptions? You must chain up your free English Bible again, before you can bring back these nations to the servility which our fathers spurned. They rolled off this mountain incubus from themselves and their posterity, when they struck the manacles from God's Word-opened its dungeon—and introduced it to the homes and hearts of English-Thank God that this unspeakable gift—His Word in the language of the people—which Luther restored to the German nations—and Wyckliffe and his successors to the English—can never again be buried under the rubbish of monkish superstition, or chained to the pillar of church or monastery. Since it burst its bonds, and the press lent it wings, it has become the very Angel of the Apocalypse, that flew through the midst of heaven, having the everlasting Gospel to preach to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people.

Besides the dogmatism of the Roman and kindred churches,

is their materialism. Their worship is a spectacle; altars, crucifixes, statues, paintings, relics, the consecrated cup and wafer, the tinkling bell, the smoking censer, incessant genuflections, appeal to sense and imagination, and produce impressions, felt rather than comprehended. The very prayers and praises must be in Latin. Teach men to read their Bibles, and this dumb show, this masquerade, loses its attraction. The student of Scripture knows that men gazed on the original cross, and on Him who died on it, who were none the better. The meaning of that sacrifice needs to be fathomed, the need of it, the nature of the victim, the relation of his sufferings to the law violated, and to the violator of it. The complete circle of truths which constitute the scheme of redemption, is to be surveyed in the blended lights which these two Testaments, Old and New, combine to shed upon it. No doubt some, and we hope, many, boru and bred in Papal countries, may look beneath these disguises, to the Christianity which they rather conceal than reveal; but most, it is to be feared, stop short with the iron mask which hides from them that Saviour "whom to know is life eternal." Be on the alert then, watch and seize your opportunities to introduce Bibles into France, Spain, Austria, and Italy; and how long will it be, before the gorgeous minsters, and pompous ceremonials, and complicated rituals, begin to yield the ground to the simple, spiritual faith of the New Testament?

Besides the dogmatism and materialism of these degenerate churches, is their absolute antagonism to Christianity. Whether or not Popery be the Antichrist of Scripture, it is certainly that of history. The sovereign Pontiff defrauds Christ of his lord-ship over the church, assuming to rule it for Him. Canonized saints are so many mediators, trespassing upon the province of the "One Mediator." The priest in the mass, claims to transmute bread and wine into the veritable body, and blood, and spirit of the Lord, and to offer these in sacrifice, though "Christ offered himself once for all." The virgin mother is constrained to dethrone her Son; churches are erected to her honor, shrines hallowed to her worship, festivals bear her name, and celebrate her praises; while that Son pointed to his disciples and said: "Behold my mother and my brethren: Whosoever shall do the will of my Father in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister,

and mother." Much, no doubt, is made of the cross in Papal countries; it glitters from dome and spire, it surmounts the altar, it heads the procession, it sparkles on the breast, and swings from the girdle; men uncover their heads as it goes by. Yet the great expiation, of which that cross is the mere symbol, is underrated, is deemed insufficient, the penitent who looks to it, is afraid to trust in it; he must do penance; frequent confession must procure him frequent absolution; he has to buy his passport to the skies, feeing the priest to atone for him while living, and to drag him out of purgatory, when dead. Who, that has eyes and ears, needs to be told that these, and the like errors and perversions, have overrun the larger part of Christendom? Against one and all of them, our Bible utters its remonstrance. They are repugnant to its entire aim and spirit. men study this Book with minds open to conviction, and they will renounce them. They will abjure Popery, if they do not embrace Christianity. The head will be convinced, though the heart should be withheld; for the Spirit of truth must accompany the truth, if the whole man is to be led captive. then, your presses, to multiply these Volumes; distribute them where, and when you may; invite and persuade to their perusal; read them to those too ignorant, or too indifferent, to read them for themselves; and, withal, pray that He who inspired the Word, and commissioned it, will go with it, to render it effectual; and gradually, perhaps, but steadily, the pall will be lifted from the human mind, reason will wake to its responsibilities, priestly supremacy will wane, gilded crucifixes will give place to a contrite trust in a Redeemer; "the fearful looking for of judgment, and fiery indignation," darkening the path of life, deepening the gloom of death, which tears, and prayers, abstinence and vigil, confession, absolution, extreme unction, prove unavailing to dispel, will be succeeded by the peace that passeth understanding, the peace of forgiven sin, of a conscience reconciled to itself and its God, leaning its throbbing and aching temples on the bosom of an Infinite Love.

The resolution was adopted; and the meeting was closed with the doxology and benediction.

CONSTITUTION.

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CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

Sec. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Brown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

- SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal, which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.
- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.

Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

BY-LAWS.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

ARTICLE 1.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice President, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice President and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository,—each of said Committees to consist of three persons.

ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository annually, four copies of the Common Bible, or the value thereof, (1,00,) in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

BY VIRTUE OF A CONTRIBUTION OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

Abhe, Mrs. Frederick R., Abington. *Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. Adams, Nebemiah, D. D., Beston. Adams, Stephen W., Mesway. Adkins, Miss Mary J., South Deerfield. Albree, John, Beston. Albro, John A., D. D., Cambridge. Albro, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Albro, Miss Annie E. Alden, Almira S. C., Fozbore'. Alden, Russell, Campello. Allen, Richard H., Braintres. Andrews, Artemas F., Fitchburg. Andrews, C. L., Boston. Andrews, W. T. *Appleton, Samuel, Boston. Appleton, William, Atwood, John W., Chatham. Babcock, Mrs. Nancy, Boston. Babcock, Rev. William R., Jamaica Plain. Bacon, Jacob, Gloucester. Baker, Mrs. Eleanor J. W., Dorchester. Baker, Francis, South Denvers. Barber, Martin, Skerbern. Barker, Hiram, Brighton. Barnard, William F., Marlboro. *Barnes, William, Bartlett, Thomas, Boston. Bayley, Robert, Newburyport. Beal, Alexander, Boston. Beebe, James M. Beebe, Mrs. James M. " Beebe, Charles E. Beebe, Francis L. " Beebe, Edward P. Reebe, Emily B Beebe, Mary L. Beecher, Rev. William H., No. Brockfield. Belknap, Miss Martha M., Framingham. Blanchard, Miss Frances C., Greton. Blood, Cyrus, Winchester. Bodwell, Rev. J. C., Framingham. Boston. *Bond, George, Bowers, Luke K. Bowers, Mrs. Cara H.

Brackett, James, Quincy.

*Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgetown. Brant, Aaron, South Reading. Breed, Rev. William J., Southbore'. Brewer, Cyrus, Dorchester. Brickett, Franklin, Haverkill. Briggs, Rev. William T., Princeton. Brigge, Mrs. Abby L. *Bromfield, Elizabeth, Beston. *Brooks, Peter C. Brooks, Peter C. Groton. Brown, Joseph, Bulkley, Mrs. Catharine F. " Burge, Lorenzo, Beston. Burr, Charles C., Auburndale. Burrage, J. C., Boston. Butler, Rev. Daniel, Groton. Butler, Mrs. Jane D. Cady, Rev. Daniel R., West Cambridge. Cady, Mrs. Harriet S. Capen, Mrs. Charles, Framingham. Capen, Miss C. Elizabeth, Carpenter, Catharine E., Fozboro'. Carpenter, Daniel, Cary, George C., N. Bridgeweter. Cary, Mrs. Mary D., Fozboro'. Chapin, Caleb T., Whitinsville. Chase, Ann Maria, Haverhill. Chase, Hezekiah A., Lynn. Child, Miss Lucy, Thatford, Vt. Childs, Carlos, Henniker, N. H. Childs, Horace, Choate, David, Salem. *Clap, James, Dorchester. Clap, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Clapp, James B. Clapp, John C. " Clark, James G., Andover. Clark, John L. Clark, Jonathan, Winchester. Clark, Oliver R. Clark, Miss Nelly, Sherborn. Clark, Rev. P. K., South Deerfield. Clark, Rev. Rufus W., Breeklyn, N. Y. Clarke, Mrs. Adelisa H., Medway. Clarke, Francis, Haverkill.

Clary, Mrs. S. S., Askland.

Cleaveland, Waldo, South Deerfield. Clifford, Wyatt B., Chatham. Cobb, Jacob, Abington. Cobb, Rev. L. H., Andover. *Cobb, Richard, Boston. 64 *Codman, Charles R. Codman, Mrs. Catharine, Colby, Albert, Cole, Miss Ella A., Medway. Conn, Horace, Woburn. Cook, Asa, Newton. Coolidge, Joseph, Boston. Coolidge, Lowell, Skerborn. Copp, Mrs. Fedora F., Chelsea. Cousens, Boulah F., Newton Centre. Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Curtis, Abner, East Abington. Cushman, George H., North Bridgewater. Cutter, Stephen, Winchester. Cutter, Stephen H. Damon, Albert P., Reading. Dana, Samuel, Boston. Dana, Charles B., Brookline. Dane, John H. Daniell, Mrs. Eliza B., Medway. Davis, Alvah M., Haverkill. Davis, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Northboro'. Davis, James, Boston. Day, Robert L., Newton. [7 2 2 2 4 Dickson, Oliver, Somerville. Dickson, Mrs. Sarah E. " Denham, Rev. George, Barre. Denham, Mrs. Clara D. " Dix, Mrs. Elijah, Boston. Dodd, Rev. S. G., Spencer. Dodge, Rev. John, Harvard. Dodge, Mrs. Ann S. Dodge, Mrs. J. M. C., Andover. Doggett, Mrs. Frances L., Groveland. *Dorr, John, Boston. *Dow, Josiah, " *Dowse, Edward, Dedham. Dudley, P. W., Whitinsvills. Dunlap, Sumner, South Deerfield. Dunn, Edward H., Boston. Dutch, Elizabeth M. Dyer, Rev. E. Porter, Hingham. ger, William, Boston Eames, Mrs. Nancy, Sherbern. Eastburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, Besten. Eaton, Eben, Framingham. Eaton, Miss Martha W., Fitchburg. Eaton, William, Boston. Eaton, William J., Westbere'. *Eliot, Samuel, Beston. Eliot, Samuel A. *Elwell, Robert,

Everett, Edward, Boston. Farnsworth, Mrs. Abel, Greton. Farwell, Stephen T., Cambridge. Fay, Cyrus, Westboro'. Fearing, Albert, Boston. Fearing, Mrs. Albert, " Fisher, Miss Eliza, Medway. Fitz, Rev. Daniel, Ipswick. Fletcher, Stillman, Winchester. Ford, Rev. George, East Falmouth. Ford, Thomas A., Beston. Ford, Thomas A., North Bridgewater. Ford, Mrs. Eliza C. Fosdick, Charles, Groton. Fosdick, Frederick, Foedick, Rose, Foedick, Samuel W. " Foedick, Miss Mary, " Foster, Rev. Aaron, E. Charlemont. Foster, Miss Eliza C., Rowley. *Francis, Ebenezer, Boston. Furber, Rev. Daniel L., Newton. Furber, Mrs. Maria B. Gale, Rev. Wakefield, Rockport. Gale, Mrs. Wakefield, Gale, Justin Edwards, Garrette, Rev. Edmund Y., Millbury. Garrette, Mrs. Franzenia W. Garrette, Mary Spring, *Gibbs, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Gilman, Miss Rebecca I., Bradford. Gordon, Solomon J., Besten. Gordon, Mrs. Rebecca, " Gordon, Jeannie, Gott, J. R., Rockport. Grant, Moses, Besten. *Gray, Francis C. *Gray, Henry, " Gray, Horace, Gray, John C. Green, Rev. J. S. C., Newton. Greenwood, Mrs. Sally K., Skerbern. *Grew, John, Boston. Hale, E. J. M., Haverhill. Hall, Mrs. Joseph F., Greten. *Hammatt, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Hammond, Rev. William B., Braintree. Hammond, Mrs. Louise M. Hardwick, Thomas, Quincy. Hastings, Hollis, Framingham. Hatch, Benjamin, East Falmouth. Hawes, Cynthia, Wrentham. Hayward, Elias, Braintres. Hayward, Paul, Askby. Headley, Rev. P. C., Greenfield. Heard, John, Ipswick. Hebron, Miss Priscilla, Reuley. Hersey, Jacob, Fextere'.

Emery, Mrs. Harrist, North Weymouth.

Hewias, Levi R., Fezbare'. *Higginson, Stephen, Jr., Boston. Hildreth, Mrs. Mary R., Groton. *Hill, Henry, Boston. Hill, Jotham, Weburn. Holm, J. P., Manchester. * *Holmes, Abiel, D. D., Cambridge Holmes, Miss E. A., Anderse. Homer, Charles W., Cambridge. Hooker, George B., Skerborn. Hooper, Robert, Boston. Hoppin, Rev. James M., Salem. ~ Hovey, George O., Boston. How, Frederick, Danvers. *How, James, Boston. *Howe, John, Howes, Collins, Chatham. Howard, Cary, North Bridgewater. Howard, David, Hoyt, Mrs. Maria, Framingham. Hulbert, Charles, Boston. Humphrey, Daniel, North Weymouth. *Hyslop, David, Boston. Jackson, James, *Jackson, Patrick T. " Jephson, Miss C. R., Breekline. Johnson, Mrs. Emma E., Bradford. Johnson, Peter R, Helliston. Johnson, Mrs. S. W., Farmington, N. H. Jones, Henry E., Holliston. Joy, Mrs. Abigail, Boston. Keep, N. C. Keith, Albert, Campelle. Keith, Azza B., North Bridgewater. Keith, Charles, Keith, Zeba C., Campelle. Kendall, Mrs. Abel M., Boston. Kerr, Robert W., Foxboro'. Kerr, Jane K. Kettelle, Jacob Q., Boston. Kimball, David, Bradford. Kingman, Miss Sarah, Boston. *Knowles, Rev. James D. " Knox, Mrs. S., Rock Island, Ill. Lambert, Rev. Thomas R., Charlestown. Lamson, Edwin, Boston. Lameon, Mrs. Edwin, " Lamson, Helen, Lane, Richmond J., East Abington. Langworthy, Rev. Isaac P., Chelees. Larkin, Lydia E., South Reading. Lasell, Josiah, Auburndale. *Lawrence, Amos, Beston. Lawrence, Asa, Groton. " Lawrence, Mrs. M. A. Lawrence, Curtis, Lawrence, Mrs. Nancy T., Salem, N. H.

Leach, Simeon, Stoughton.

Leavitt, Mrs. Elizabeth G., Boston. Leeds, Benjamin, Brooklins. Leeds, Benjamin, Jr. Loeds, Mrs. Anne B. Leeds, Miss Anne G. " Lefavour, Issachar, Beverly. Leland, Calvin, Jr., Natick. Leonard, Eliza, Fozboro'. Leonard, James M., Bridgewater. Lewis, Reuben, Groton. Lincoln, F. W., Jr., Boston. Lincoln, Noah, Little, Rev. E. G., North Middlebore'. Livermore, George, Cambridge. *Locke, Ephraim, Boston. Locke, Miss Mary O., Bradford. Loomis, Rev. E., Littleten. Lord, John A., South Danvers. Lord, Louisa C., Manchester. Lowell, Charles, D. D., Besten. Lumb, William, Lyman, Rev. George, Sutton. Manning, Edward W., Woburn. Marsh, Elizabeth C., Haverkill. Marsh, E. J., Groton. Marsh, Miss Julia M., Haverkill. *Marston, William, Boston. *McKean, William, *McLean, Mrs. Ann, " Means, Rev. John O., Rozbury. Means, Mrs. John O. Messenger, Miss Eliza, Fitchburg. Mills, Rev. C. L., North Bridgewater. Mills, Mrs. Rebecca B. Mixter, Mrs. Fanny L., Boston. Mixter, Mrs. Mary R., Hardwick. Mixter, Mrs. S. E., Rock Island, Ill. Moore, Rev. George, Andover. Moar, Rufus, Groton. Mordough, Rev. John H., Hamilton. Morley, Rev. S. B., Williamstown. Morse, Charles N., Fexbere'. Morse, Miss Emily A., Bradford. Morse, Henry, Natick. Munger, Rev. Theodore T., Dorchester. Murray, Rev. James O., South Danvers. Murray, Mrs. Julia R. Nason, Rev. Elias, Medford. *Newell, Montgomery, Boston. Nichole, Jumes R., Haverhill. Nightingale, Rev. Crawford, Groton. Norcross, Josiah, South Reading. Nourse, Daniel, West Medway. Noyes, Alva, North Bridgewater. Odlin, Benjamin, Ezster, N. H. Odlin, Mrs. E. T. Ordway, Aaron L., New York city. Ordway, Miss Charlotte, Bradford.

Packard, Rev. D. Temple, Campello. Paine, Mrs. Sarah M., Holden. Paine, Miss Sarah C. *Palmer, Rev. Stephen, Needkam. Park, John C., Boston. *Parker, John, Parker, Mrs. Sarab, *Parkman, Francis, D. D., *Purkman, Samuel, Parkman, Mrs. Sarah, Rarmenter, Mrs. E. J. G., Peterskam. *Parsons, Gorham, Boston. *Parsons, William, Partridge, Joseph, Holliston. Patrick, Rev. Henry J., Bedford. Paul, Luther, Newton. ₹. Payson, Miss Susan, Fozboro'. Pease, George W., Salem. Pearson, Miss Hannah J., Lowell. Peckhain, Hubbard, Peterskam. *Perkins, James, Boston. *Perkins, James, Jr. *Perkins, Thomas H. " Perley, Jacob, South Danvers. Perry, Miss Catharine H., Skerborn. *Peters, Edward D., Boston. Pettee, Miss Eliza J., Fozboro'. Pottee, Samuel Gardner, Stoughton. Phillips, Alonzo P., South Danvers. Phillips, Jonathan, Boston. Phillips, Mrs. Sally, *Phillips, William, Pickard, Rev. Daniel W., Groveland. Pierpont, Rev. John, Medford. Pond, Almira W., South Malden. Pond, John P., Boston. Pond, Mrs. Nancy, Medicay. Poor, Joseph, South Danvers. Poor, Nathan H. " Porter, Samuel S., Winchester. Pratt, Cornelius, North Weymouth Pratt, Galen, North Bridgewater. Pratt, Norton, Braintres. *Prescott, William, Boston. *Prince, Rev. J. M., Georgetown. Prince, Mrs. Sarah B. Proctor, Thorndike, South Danvers. Quincy, Thomas D., Dorckester. Quincy, Mrs. J. C. Reed, Horace, South Abington. Rice, Mrs. Agnes L., Boston. Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth, Lawrence. Rice, Mrs. Henry A. Rich, Rev. A. B., Beverly. Richards, Mrs. A. M., Boston. Richards, J. F., M. D., Campello. Richardson, Benjamin P., Boston. Richardson, Luther, Winchester.

Richardson, Sumner, Winckester. *Ritchie, Andrew, Jr., Boston. Robbins, Andrew, Groton. Robbins, Chandler, D. D., Boston. *Robbins, Edward H. Roberts, Rev. Jacob, East Medway. Roberts, Mrs. Mary A. Robinson, H. W., North Bridgewater. Rockwood, John, Groton. Rockwood, Miss Polly S., Askland. Rogers, George, Boston. *Rogers, Rev. William M., Beston. Safford, Rev. George B., Northbridge. *Salisbury, Samuel, Boston. Surgent, L. M. Sawtell, Ephraim, Groton. Scudder, Charles, Boston. Scudder, Mrs. Sarah L. " Selfridge, Thomas O. Shattuck, Andrew, Groton. Shaw, Mrs. Hannah, Boston. Sheldon, Rev. Luther, Westbero'. Sheldon, Mrs. Sarah H. Shiverick, Miss Maria L., Campello. *Sigourney, Andrew, Boston. Sigourney, Henry, *Slack, Ruggles, Slafter, Rev. Edmund F. " Small, Samuel A., Millbury. Smith, Rev. Edward P., Popperell. Smith, Rev. Matson M., Bridgeport, Ct. Smith, Mrs. Matson M. Smith, Norman, M. D., Groton. Smith, Richard, South Danvers. Smith, Mrs. Charlotte, " *Smith, Samuel, Boston. Snow, Mrs. Caroline, Newton. Snow, Mrs. Mark, Chatham. Southgate, Rev. Robert, Ipswich. Southgate, Mrs. Mary Frances, " Spooner, W. B., Boston. Stoddard, L. T., Brookline. Stone, Rev. Andrew L., Boston. Stone, Mrs. Matilda F. Stone, Martha A., Newton Centre. Sumner, Mrs. H. H., Fozboro'. Tappan, John, Boston. Teele, Rev. Albert K., Millon. Teele, Mrs. Cornelia C. " Temple, Mark M., Reading. Tenney, Mrs. Mary P., Winchester. Thacher, Miss Calista C., Auleboro'. Thacher, Mrs. Susan C. Thatcher, Mary Ludlow, Middlebure'. -Thuyer, Amasa, Braintres. Thayer, Ira, Thayer, Mrs. Lilla, Thayer, Mrs. Jane, Boston.

Thayer, Robert H., Rezbury. Tolman, Rev. Samuel H., Wilmington. Torrey, Miss Elizabeth L., South Weymouth. Torrey, James, North Weymouth. Trask, Mrs. A. H., Manchester. Tucker, Rev. Elijah W., Lebenon, Ct. Tucker, Mrs. Hannah W. Tucker, Jesse, Millon. Tucker, Nathan, Tucker, Mrs. Nathan, " Tucker, William, Dorchester. Tuttle, Miss Sarah, Andover. Tuttle, Thomas, Littleton. Twichell, John M., Fitchburg. Tyler, Jerome W., Besten. Vose, William H., Fitchburg. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. Wales, Erastus, East Randolph. Wales, Miss Mary Ann, Boston. Walker, J. S., East Medicay. Walker, Moses, Baverhill. Walker, Robert G. " *Walley, Samuel H., Boston. Walley, Samuel H. 66 4 Ward, Artemas, " Welch, John, 44 Weld, James, Wells, Mrs. Martha D., Northboro'. Wellman, Rev. J. W., Newton. Wendell, Mrs. Catharine, Boston. Whiteomb, Lewis, East Randolph.

Whitcomb, Reuben, Herverd. Whiteomb, Reuben, Jr. 66 Whitcomb, Mrs. Abby F. Whiteomb, Mrs. Louisa D. Whitcomb, Miss Mary M. *White, James, Boston. White, Josiah, Peterskam. White, Mrs. Mary C., Easten. White, Newton, East Randolph. Whitin, Charles P., Whitineville. Whitin, Paul, Whitney, Charles H., Fitchburg. Whitney, Mrs. Permelia V., Peterekam. *Wigglesworth, Thomas, Besten. Wilcox, Rev. William H., Reading. Wild, Daniel, Boston. Wilson, Rev. Thomas, Stoughton. Winslow, Pelham, East Abington. Winthrop, Robert C., Boston. *Winthrop, Thomas L. " Withington, Otis, Breokline. Wolcott, William, Denvers. Woodbury, Simon J., Sutton. Wood, Elizabeth C., Fezbore'. Woods, Miss Abbie Wheeler, Malden. Woods, Joseph Wheeler, Besten. Woods, Samuel H. Woodward, Ebenezer, Newton. (' ' *Worthington, William, Beston. Wiley, Mrs. Ann B., South Reading. Wyman, William G., Fitchburg.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

RECEIPTS FROM MAY 1, 1859, TO MAY 1, 1860.

SUFFOLK COUNTY.

Boston, First Church, Rev. R. Ellis, pastor,)7 18 06 1 8
" Rev. Mr. Alden, South Boston, 36 (" Rev. Messrs. Blagden and Manning, Old South, 94	38 36 31 8
rev. Messis. Diaguen and Maining, Old Bouth, 94)6 31 8
)6 31 8
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	8
" Rev. Dr. Kirk, Mount Vernon, 97 (
" Rev. Mr. Johnson, Bowdoin Street, 165 1	
" Rev. Mr. Stone, Park Street, 115 (0
" Shawmut Church,	16
" North Russell Street Methodist Episcopal Church, . 9 (Ю
" Bromfield Street Methodist Episcopal Church, (1 L. M.) 30 2	19
" Mrs. T. Gordon, (1 L. M.)	0
" Ford & Olmstead,	0
" A friend, \$3; do. by A. Merrill, \$2; do. \$1; do. \$1; 7	0
" Collections by Mr. Charles Blanchard, viz: Six Life	
Memberships,—Samuel H. Walley, Jonathan Phil-	
lips, Mrs. Agnes L. Rice, Miss Mary Ann Wales,	
Moses Grant, and Albert Colby, \$20 each; J. A. D.	
Goss, \$5; W. S. Houghton, \$5; Seamen's Episco-	
pal Mission, \$5; J. W. Heard, \$3; John A.	
Whipple, \$3; John A. Andrew, E. B. Paine, Frost	
& Kimball, Henry Wainwright, Gardner Colby &	
Co., Franklin E. Allen & Co., Hiram Emerson,	
H. A. Huntington, J. Davis, Jr., J. S. Hooper,	
J. H. Bradbury, Charles S. Brown, I. Lombard,	
Foster & Taylor, Whitton, Hopkins & Co., Russell	
& Tolman, A. T. Brown, F. Kendall, Daniel	
Chamberlain, \$2 each; John Anderson, L. & J.	
Blanchard, H. A. Mellen, R. W. Sears, H. Baker	
& Co., Charles Dean, S. B. Pierce, C. F. Wyman,	
Beecher Griffin, J. M. Pierce, and H. A. Breed, \$1	
each; seven friends, \$8; 198 (10

ESSEX COUNTY.

Andover, Chapel Congregation,	. \$7	5 00
" North, Trin. Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	. 2	0 00
" South Church and Parish,	. 7	5 00
Beverly, Washington Street Church and Society,	. 1	3 00
" A friend,	•	5 00
Danvers, South, First Congregational Church and Society,	. 6	1 12
Georgetown, Society of Rev. Mr. Beecher,	. 2	5 79
Gloucester, Elm Street Methodist Episcopal Church, .	•	3 75
Groveland, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	. 2	5 31
Haverhill, Centre Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. 1	w.) 6	4 00
Ipswich, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	. 5	7 20
" South Church and Society, (1. L. M.)	. 2	1 00
Lynn, Central Congregational Church and Society, .	. 1	5 08
Manchester, Society of Rev. F. V. Tenney, \$12 29; a frien	d.	
1 г. м. \$20;	•	2 29
Methuen, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.).		7 75
Newbury, Byfield, Congregational Church and Society, .		4 50
Newburyport, Belleville, Society of Rev. Mr. Fiske,		8 39
Rockport, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B.		0 00
Salem, Crombie St. Church and Society, (1 L. M. and 2 do. A.	-	0 00
" South Church and Society,	•	3 91
Saugus, First Church and Society,		0 00
Topsfield, A lady,	•	2 50
West Newbury, First Church and Society,	•	3 61
Society of Rev. Mr. Foster,	•	
Society of Itev. Mi. Poster,	-	3 56
	\$ 77	7 76
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MIDDLESEX COUNTY.		
Ashby, Congregational Church and Society,	. \$1	1 00
Auburndale, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	•	4 70
" Mrs. Catharine D. Allen, (1 L. M. A. B. S.).		0 00
" A friend,		5 00
Boxborough, Congregational Church and Society,	•	1 50
Brighton, Evan. Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. x	•	2 60
Cambridge, S. T. Farwell, (2 L. M.) \$40; a friend, \$1;	•	1 00
Concord, Union Bible Society, (3 L. M. A. B. 8.)		0 00
East Cambridge, Mrs. J. Tyler,		9 00
Framingham, Hollis Evangelical Church,		
Grantville, Congregational Church and Society,		7 00
Groton, Union Orthodox Church and Society,		0 61
•		1 06
" Mrs. Mary Woodbury, (1 L. M.)		0 00
PRODUCTOR CONTROPORTIONALL'ENGANA AND NADAMENT (U.S. M.)	A	2 00

Hopkinton, Cong. Church and Society, and Meth. Epis. Church	ch, 🛊 3	5 (00
Littleton, Congregational Church and Society,		0 8	
Medford, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society,	. 1	5 6	63
Reading, Old South Church,	. 1	2 3	38
Saxonville, Edwards Church,	. 1	2 (00
Sherborn, Society of Rev. Mr. Dowse, for Bible in Italy,	. 2	21 2	28
" Female Reading and Benevolent Society, .		20 (
Somerville, First Orthodox Congregational Church and Societ		3 6	
South Reading, Congregational Church and Society, .	•	5 (
"Burrage Yale, (1 L. M. A. B. s.)		80 (•
Townsend, Congregational Church and Society,		7 6	
West Cambridge, Orthodox Congregational Church and Socie		5 4	
Westford, Congregational Church and Society,	•	5 (
Winchester, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)		5 7	
Woburn, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .		36	
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	\$ 93	31 3	36
	-		
WORCESTER COUNTY.			
Clinton, First Evangelical Church and Society,	. \$8	31 7	73
Fitchburg, Religious Charitable Society, (2 L. M. A. B. s.)	. (33 (09
Grafton, Evangelical Church and Society, (2 L. M. A. B. s.)	. (30 (00
Holden, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) .	. 5	20 (00
Leicester, Congregational Church and Society,	. 3	33 :	24
Leominster, Evangelical Church and Society,	. 1	12	50
Lunenburg, Congregational Church and Society,	•	9 (60
Millbury, Mr. Samuel Small, (1 L. M.)	. 2	22 (00
" Mrs. Mary S. Small, bequest. (1 L. M.)		20 (
Northbridge, Congregational Church and Society,		25 (
Petersham, Congregational Church and Society,		26	
Princeton, C. Temple,	•	1	
Royalston, Congregational Church and Society,	. (60	
Southboro', Pilgrim Evangelical Church,		22 (
Upton, Congregational Church and Society,		15	
Westboro', Evangelical Church and Society,		84	
Whitinsville, Congregational Church and Society,		90	
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	\$ 69	97	02
HAMPDEN COUNTY.			
		~	
HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.—Mr. James Brewer, Spri	•••		
Donations,	. \$ 6	36	54
On Bible account, (\$183 46.)			
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY.			
East Hawley, Congregational Church and Society,	. \$	14	00

FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.

Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.

Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.
Ashfield, First Parish, Gents. Association, \$6 20; Ladies' do.
\$ 9 03; \$ 15 23
" Gent. and Ladies' Association, 14 56
"Second Cong. Church and Society, \$12; do. \$12 87; 24 87
Bernardston, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, . 11 00
Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, 19 13
Conway, Congregational Church and Society, 2 10
East Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) 20 00
Greenfield, First Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.) . 34 84
Montague, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.) 30 00
" Estate of the late Mrs. Maria T. Richards, (2 L. M.
A. B. S.) 60 00
Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, Gents. Asso-
ciation, \$27 28; Ladies' do. \$23 90;
" Congregational Church and Society, Gents. Asso-
ciation, \$23 81; Ladies' do. \$17 87; 41 68
" Legacy of Sarah B. Forbush, by E. Kellogg, Ex'r, 114 28
" Falls, Congregational Church and Society, 19 00
South Deerfield, Monument Church and Society, (1 L. M.) . 20 00
" First Congregational Church and Society,
(1 L. M. A. B. S.)
Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society, \$1; do.
\$36 25; (1 L. M. A. B. S.)
Warwick, Trinitarian Church and Society, 9 00
Whately, First Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.) . 30 00
" Second Congregational Church and Society, 17 00
Doduct roid for printing
Deduct paid for printing,
\$ 592 75
4 002 10
NORFOLK COUNTY.
Braintree, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) \$ 30 06
Braintree and Weymouth, Union Church,
Dedham, Society of Rev. Dr. Burgess,
Dorchester, Second Church and Society,
Foxboro', Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.). 67 30
Franklin, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.) 47 92
Jamaica Plain, Mrs. Charles Bradford,
Medway, Society of Rev. Dr. Ide, (1 L. M.)
"Elijah Partridge,
" Village Church and Society, (1 L. M.)
—

Milton, First Evangelical Church and Society, (1 L. M.) .	\$ 22	66						
Quincy, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,								
Randolph, East, Winthrop Church, (1 L. M.)	28	66						
Roxbury, Eliot Church,	71	06						
Weymouth, First Congregational Church and Society,	20	07						
" Pilgrim Church and Society,	16	00						
" East, First Congregational Church and Society,	10	00						
Wrentham, First Congregational Church and Society,	13	00						
	\$ 749	84						
BRISTOL COUNTY.								
Attleboro', Calista C. Thacher, (1 L. M.)	\$ 3 0	00						
Berkley, Congregational Church and Society,	-	00						
Easton, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		15						
Norton, Congregational Church and Society,		15						
Raynham, Congregational Church and Society,		25						
Taunton, Winslow Church,		84						
	\$ 130	0						
PLYMOUTH COUNTY.								
Abington, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	\$ 40	82						
" East, Congregational Church and Society,	18	18						
" South, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) 20	00						
Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	50	00						
East Bridgewater, Congregational Church and Society,	10	30						
" A friend,	1	00						
Marshfield, First Congregational Church and Society,	10	00						
Middleton, First Parish,	25	63						
North Bridgewater, Congregational Church and Society,	. 19	00						
" Porter Evangelical Church and Society, .	52	77						
Plymouth, Mrs. Jane Gordon, (2 L. M. A. B. S.)	60	00						
	\$ 307	70						
BARNSTABLE COUNTY.								
BARNSTABLE COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY Mr. John Munroe,	Tr.							
Centreville, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 13	15						
Chatham, Congregational Church and Society,	23	00						
Provincetown, Congregational Church and Society,	6	60						
" Methodist Episcopal Church,	_	26						
" Methodist Episcopal Chapel,	_	63						
6	\$ 58	64						
V								

MISCELLANEOUS.

Derry, N. H., Mr. Nehemiah Choate, (1 L. M.	A. B.	8.)	•	•	\$ 30	00
Exeter, N. H., "A friend," \$4; \$10; \$10;	•	•	•	•	24	00
Henniker, N. H., Congregational Church and	Soci	e ty ,	•	•	26	02
Springfield, O., Miss Lucy A. Child, .	•	•	•	•	5	00
Walpole, N. H., Mr. Simeon N. Perry, .	•	•	•	•	200	00
					\$ 285	02

COLLECTIONS.

By the Rev. E. F. SLAPTER, Agent of the American Bible Society.

	,							
St. Mary's Church, Newton Lower I	Falls	,	•	•	•	. \$	30	00
Church of the Messiah, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	•	41	39
Calvary Church, Danvers,	1	•	•	•	•	•	5	00
"A dew drop from Willie,"	•	•	•	•	•	•	1	00
St. Michael's Church, Marblehead, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	70	00
St. Paul's Church, Newburyport, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	30	00
St. James' Church Amesbury, on Bil	ble a	ccow	nt, \$ 3	64;	dona	tion,	, 5	00
Trinity Church, Haverhill,	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	07
St. Mary's Church, Dorchester, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	48	00
Grace Church, Lawrence,	•	•	•	•	•	•	23	25
Grace Church, Newton Corner, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	20	00
St. Andrew's Church, Chelsea, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	00
St. John's Church, Charlestown, .	,	•	•	•	•	•	50	00
St. John's Church, Jamaica Plain, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	50	00
St. Paul's Church, Boston,	,	•	•	•	•		483	00
St. Andrew's Church, Hanover, .		•	•	•	•	•	30	00
From G., Newton Corner,		•	•	•	•	•	50	00
Christ Church, Waltham,	1	•	•	•	•	•	20	00
St. Paul's Church, Brookline,	•	•	•	•	•	•	139	00
Grace Church, Boston, on Bible acco	ount,	\$ 25	; don	ation	,	•	45	00
Grace Church, Salem,		•	•	•	•	•	30	00
Trinity Church, Boston,		•	•	•	•	. :	278	75
Christ Church, Andover,		•	•	•		•	47	15
St. John's Church, East Boston, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	7	00
St. Matthew's Church, South Bostor	a,	•	•	•	•	•	6	00
						_		_

^{\$} 1,529 61

[Other collections made by Mr. SLAPTER, in Massachusetts, have been paid through other Auxiliary Societies.]

LEGACIES.

Newton, Mrs. Abigail Lamb, by Mr. Ebenezer Stone, Ex'r, Whitinsville, Ezra W. Fletcher, by P. W. Dudley, Ex'r,	•	\$ 50 00 500 00
	•	\$ 550 00

Annual subscriptions, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	. \$ 447	00
Returns for books donated,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 9	18
Interest and dividends, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 1,172	00
Sales at the Depository, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 11,121	18
Amount acknowledged in th	e pre	cedin	g list	8,		•	\$ 21,132	57

Pecuniary remittances and letters relating to the business of the Depository, and orders for Books, should be addressed to S. T. FARWELL, Agent, No. 15 Cornhill, Boston.

ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING,

IN BOSTON,

MAY 27, 1861, BEING THE FIFTY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON, 42 CONGRESS STREET.

1861.



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OF THE

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ANNUAL REPORT.

The Committee are happy to report that the operations of the Society have been somewhat enlarged during the past year. This is true both in regard to its income and its issues. While in the previous year some thirty-five thousand volumes were circulated, the number this year has risen to thirty-nine thousand. Eleven thousand two hundred and ninety-one copies of the Scriptures have been circulated gratuitously, against some nine thousand eight hundred copies last year. Of this number there were four thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight Bibles, five thousand nine hundred and forty Testaments, five hundred and fifty-one Testaments and Psalms, and twenty-two copies of the Psalms.

Of these grants, it is interesting to notice that more than one-third have been for our sailors and soldiers. For Sabbath schools and other schools, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four volumes have been appropriated; for city missions, eight hundred and forty-nine; for public institutions and public houses, three hundred and ninety-six; for destitute families and individuals, in Massachusetts, three thousand five hundred and twenty-six; and in other places, eight hundred and forty-seven;—

while for seamen alone there have been appropriated two thousand three hundred and forty-six volumes, and for soldiers leaving for the war, during a fortnight only previous to the close of our year, one thousand four hundred and sixty-three volumes.

The demand for the troops is almost exclusively for Testaments and Testaments with Psalms. important work of furnishing every soldier with compact pocket volumes is going forward. The Society at New York has prepared a soldier's edition of the Gospel of John, and of the Book of Proverbs, and of similar portions of Scripture, in good type, and occupying little space. It is like the preparation of nourishment in the form of permican for polar explorers. It will fall within the next year to report upon the full extent of this work. Only two weeks of it were in our last year. But we anticipate so much as to state, that up to the present time there have been issued from our Depository, for the troops of Massachusetts and of this part of New England alone, more than five thousand copies of these Scriptures. Some have been sold at cost, to be given by special friends of the troops; the larger part has been gratuiously furnished by this Society.

In the Commonwealth at large, the distribution has not varied much from previous years. Mr. Jacob Hersey, the Society's colporter, finished the canvass of Norfolk County last October. He reports having visited 15,857 families, of whom 1,056 were of foreign nativity. He supplied 146,

whom he found destitute of Bibles; and put in circulation, by sale and gift, 4,729 volumes. He has also visited ten towns in Barnstable County, calling upon 5,550 families, of whom 61 had no Bibles; and he has put in circulation in Barnstable, thus far, 2,089 copies of Bibles and Testaments.

The income of this Society, from all sources the past year, was \$22,568.32, which is an advance of nearly fourteen hundred dollars upon the year before. With \$1,444.24 on hand at the beginning of the year, the total available means have been \$24,012.56. The expenditures have amounted to \$20,417.02.

Of the income, the donations, legacies and annual subscriptions amounted to \$10,894.94, and the sales have been \$10,424.88, which is a trifle less than last year. The income seems about equally divided between gifts and sales. There was received, in addition, from dividends on stocks and interest, \$1,241.50, and money returned for books granted, \$9.

The largest item of expenditures is for the purchase of Bibles and Testaments, which amounted to \$14,059.50. The expense of the Depository, of the General and Depository Agents and Assistant, Colporter, paper, printing, rent, &c., was \$4,255.91. The donations to the American Bible Society, New York, were \$2,101.61.* In addition to these

^{*} Since this Report was written, one thousand dollars have been remitted to the American Bible Society for sending Bibles to Italy.

amounts, that Society has received directly from Massachusetts, the past year, \$4,713.81. And thus, while this Society accounts for some twenty-four thousand dollars the past year, there has been devoted to the Bible cause in the whole Commonwealth, nearly twenty-nine thousand dollars.

The work of supplying our own population, is one continually demanding our attention. same reasons why our alms-houses and charitable institutions are so populous, in spite of the thrift of the body of our people, renders it necessary, notwithstanding the general enlightenment, to make a thorough distribution of the Holy Scriptures. The shifting population bears a due proportion to the activity of business. The sailors and immigrants must be looked after. The soldiers must be looked after. Those who go forth must be armed and equipped with the sword of the Spirit. In the camps which are to be established in the Commonwealth, the Word of God must be abundantly provided. It is only in accordance with God's providence to expect that this mustering of armies is to increase the demand in the whole community for that Book which is the support and guidance and comfort of men in all seasons of trial. Probably the Bible has been read more within the last two months, than in the whole twelve months before. It is a different thing to put a gilt-edged Bible into the parlor of friends just married, from what it is to put the Gospel of John, and the Psalms, and the Epistle to the Ephesians, bound

like a pocket-book, in flexible covers, into the knapsack or into the shirt pocket of a soldier. When a man comes to carry the volume in his breast-pocket, it will strike through into his heart.

The Secretary of the Society, Rev. Mr. Butler, has been occupied as usual in presenting the claims of the Society to the churches on the Sabbath, in attending the meetings of Auxiliary Societies, and in looking after the general interests of the cause.

The Committee have not forgotten that the supply of our State is but a part of the work demanded of us. "The field is the world." The destitute of other parts of our land, and of other lands, look to us for this priceless gift. Through the American Bible Society, with which we are connected, we can reach those wanting the Scriptures in the other States of this Union, and in the old world. Something has been done in this work, as appears from the facts already stated, but the friends of the Bible in this favored Commonwealth, are fairly called upon to make enlarged efforts to send beyond her borders the Book she has ever honored, and by which she has been so highly blest.

Two of our Trustees have been removed during the past year by death. The Rev. Charles Lowell, D. D., was one of the original number who were incorporated to form the Massachusetts Bible Society. On his honored and useful life, and his relations to this community, it is unnecessary here to enlarge; as such revering and affectionate tributes have already been paid to his memory by those who were best entitled to speak of him.

The other member of the Board who has died, the Hon. Francis O. Watts, was taken from us in the maturity of his powers and his usefulness, illustrating, in his decline and death, the value of the truth which he had aided to circulate.

Their example, while they were yet with us, and their removal, urge us to renewed diligence while our allotted period of labor continues.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Fifty-second Annual Meeting of the BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS, was held in the upper vestry of the Central Church, Winter Street, Boston, on Monday, May 27, 1861; the President, Hon. SAMUEL H. WALLEY, in the chair.

The Annual Report of the Treasurer was read and accepted.

The Annual Report of the Executive Committee was presented, and the reading of it postponed to the public meeting.

A communication was received from Rev. NATHANIEL L. FROTHINGHAM, D. D., resigning his office as Vice President, when, upon motion of Hon. Charles T. Russell, it was

Resolved, That this Society have received with deep regret the letter of Rev. Dr. Frothingham, resigning his place as Vice President and Trustee of the Society, and that they hereby tender to him their thanks for his valuable and efficient services in all his past relations with them for many years; and that they most heartily reciprocate the kind feelings expressed by Dr. Frothingham in his communication.

Voted, That the Recording Secretary be requested to communicate the above Resolution to the Rev. Dr. FROTHINGHAM.

The Officers of the Society for the ensuing year were then chosen.

The Society then proceeded to the Church, where the public services of the Anniversary were held.

The Scriptures were read and prayer offered, by Rev. John J. Carruthers, D. D., of Portland, Me.

On taking the chair, the President, Hon. Samuel H. Walley, spoke as follows:

It has been proposed to omit the meetings which are usually held during this week, on account of the condition of our country at the present time. My opinion has been decidedly in favor of holding our meetings as usual. Why should we not? Was there ever a period in our history as a people, when there was more occasion than now exists, for united supplication to the Ruler of Nations, to interpose in our behalf, and teach our rulers wisdom, and guide our nation, through its present troubles and trials, to peace in righteousness. And especially is there occasion for the diffusion of the Sacred Volume still more widely. We do well to care for the bodies of our fellow-men, who are imperiling their lives for the honor of our country and the preservation of our National Union. Shall we neglect the care and cultivation of their souls? Shall we provide for the casket, and take no thought for the jewel which it contains?

What would be thought of our Government, if they should send our war steamers to blockade Southern ports, and protect the commerce on our coast, and not furnish them with any charts by which they could ascertain the condition of the coast, and the dangers of approaching the shore? Is it any less preposterous or unkind, to send the young men, the flower of our country, forth to battle, with the certainty that some—we fear many—may never return, and not give them the only chart on which we can rely to instruct them as to that vast eternity before us all—and the shoals and quicksands which render the voyage of life a hazardous one?

Let us be thankful that we are privileged to meet, as members of the Massachusetts Bible Society—and let us resolve, one and all, and not only resolve, but so act, that every soldier who leaves this Commonwealth, for the field of battle, and the protection of his country's flag and honor—shall have the offer of a copy of the Holy Bible, as his companion on the journey. If such be our action, we shall have occasion to rejoice through eternity that we held the present anniversary meeting.

I am happy to learn, from the Report of our Committee, that they have already done much in supplying those who have gone from us to fight the battles of our country, with the blessed volume; may it prove their solace in trial, their companion in solitude, their shield and helmet in the time of peril—and may its leaves, which are for the healing of the nations, be scattered over all the earth, till men shall learn war no more.

Among the many pleasing indications of the hand of Providence interposing in behalf of our cause, none has been more cheering than the increased demand for the Bible in Italy.

It is an interesting sight (writes an eye witness) to see, in the crowded thoroughfare of the Toledo, a lad sitting at a large tray, containing only Bibles and New Testaments, and with his broad Neapolitan accent arresting the attention of passers by, with the simple cry of *Il Libro!* (The Book!)

For the brighter day which has dawned upon Italy let us give thanks and take courage; and let us send up our earnest supplications, that wherever there is an open Bible, there may also be a willing heart to obey its blessed precepts.

The Annual Report was read by Rev. John O. Means, of Roxbury, Ms., and the acceptance of it moved by the Rev. Prof. Egbert C. Smyth, of Brunswick, Me., in the following address:

MR. PRESIDENT:—It gives me great pleasure, Sir, before submitting a motion that the Report to which we have just listened be accepted, to preface it, at the request of the Committee, with a few remarks.

It has struck me, as it doubtless often has others, as a very pleasant arrangement, a most natural and appropriate arrangement, that the meetings of these benevolent Societies should be opened with the meeting of the Bible Society. I remember a fountain of pure, fresh water, which springs up in the midst of an island on our coast, some thirty miles away from the main land. It flows continually, through the year, and the common understanding is that it is connected with a lake high

up in the bosom of a mountain on the main land—a mountain which, I believe, is the first landmark which the New-Englander observes in returning to his native country. So it is, Sir, with the Word of God. I have been wont to think, wherever amid the many bitter waters of life I see springing up a fresh stream of truth and benevolence, that it can be traced back, directly or indirectly, to the Word of God. And certainly, Sir, this is eminently true respecting the benevolent Societies which this week celebrate their anniversaries. Our whole system of modern charities, charities which distinguish this age above all that have gone before, owes its origin, its power, its life, to the principles of benevolence taught us in that Book.

In thinking of the Word of God, one of the first impressions made upon the mind is, the wonderful power of the book. It is an illustration of this, that we have to-day, in this nineteenth century, so many Societies organized for the express purpose of its diffusion. What other book, what other collection of writings, of all the books and all the writings that have appeared in human literature, has met with such a reception?

In thinking of the power of the Bible, we go back to the earliest years of human history. It seems probable that some portions of that book, documents which enter into it, go back to the life of our first ancestor—up to the very gates of Paradise. And men of every generation, down the whole line of human history, have been, in their lives and their conduct, controlled by truths which we now read on the pages of that volume. We think not only of the number of these minds, but of the character of many They have been those of the purest and the noblest men whose names are recorded on the pages of history. Scholars, statesmen, philanthropists, poets, artists, men in every walk of life, men capable of all that men can do, have bowed to that Word, and derived from it the highest motives of their We think also of the immense variety of minds, the diversity of tastes and temperaments which have alike found food and refreshment in this same volume.

What other writings have thus influenced men, under all climes, under all diversities of life, and every variety of temperament? We know that there are other books in the world professing to be sacred. We know that Confucius, for example,

left to the Chinese the teachings of Yaou and of Shun. But we know as well that these sacred books have never over-passed in their influence the limits of the Middle Kingdom. We know, again, that the Hindoos have their sacred writings, their Vedas and Puranas. But these again have been restricted in influence to a single race—the Indo-Aryau. We know also, that Zoroaster and Mohammed professed to be religious teachers—the channels of divine revelations—and we know just as well that their writings have been restricted in power to Mussulmans and to Medo-Persians. And if the Buddhists seem to have had, in their books, a dream of universal empire, after all, the influence of Buddhism never has been felt with power beyond the Orient; it has never gained solid footing in these Western lands.

But the Bible came into being as a book for universal distribution and universal empire. And we organize and sustain these Societies because it is such a book, fitted for men in high and low stations, in every part of the habitable globe,—fitted for man as man, wherever he may be, and under whatever circumstances placed.

We are struck, again, with the power of the Bible, when we think of it as an educating force in society, the sort of men it builds up, and the influences it causes to operate through them for the elevation of the race. The chief source of its power in educating the mind, it deserves to be noticed, is in those very truths which distinguish it from all other books. It is because the Bible brings to us truths of heavenly origin, of divine power, which reach human hearts and human minds in their relations to a world to come, and the powers of that world, that it has its wonderful educating power.

Some two thousand years before the day of Christ, there were laid the foundations of an empire which to-day embraces within its limits, four hundred millions of human souls. That people, at the outset, seem to have had religious traditions of considerable purity, and some susceptibility to their influence, although their natural bias was strongly materialistic. In later years, there arose among them a teacher who, with wonderful power, seized upon the prevailing disposition of his countrymen, and shaped in accordance with it their institutions. Confucius planted the Chinese civilization upon a basis of materialism and

naturalism. His language to the people was virtually this: "You know but little about the future world; your views are circumscribed by those things which you see. You must study only phenomena, and the laws of phenomena. You must seek to control all your own powers so as most to advance your own You must strive, for example, to get the present interests. mastery of yourselves; you must seek to qualify yourselves to become heads of families, and you must make it your highest ambition to obtain an office under government." And so the very height of glory to which a man trained under these influences could attain, was to be a ruler in that earthly kingdom. And what has been the result of such a system of teaching? The Chinese nation, to-day, seems utterly dead to all the higher and nobler aspirations of the soul. We find in them scarcely any capacity of self-sacrifice for great and noble ends. They are, indeed, ingenious, prudent, industrious; having a literature, and eager in its diffusion. But, after all, what a poor specimen of what man is made to be, and what he is under the teachings of the Bible, a Chinaman is. The Bible has educated men upon principles directly antagonistic to the teachings of those enforced by Confucius. It has brought first before the minds of men the character of God, and has led man here ever to live under a sense of his duty to God, to walk here as seeing Him who is invisible.

I remember being present at a Sabbath school anniversary in which the superintendent brought in a little volume—it was but a little larger than this volume which has just been referred to in the Report, as published by the Bible Society for the soldiers. My friend handed it to me this morning. I don't know whether he thought I was going to enlist; there was exhibited, I say, a little volume, about the size of this, called Cromwell's soldiers' Bible. And I thought, as I saw it held up to view, that there was the secret of the wonderful power of those fifty thousand men whom Cromwell led to victory. They were brought together raw and undisciplined troops; they were pitted against the finest soldiers of Europe, beat them on every field, and then returned to the walks of life uncontaminated by any of the vices of the camp; so that history has put it on record that these fifty thousand men, after accomplishing that wonderful work in be-

half of liberty, went back into the community not only unstained themselves, but to be pointed at as models of manly virtue. And if in later years a man was praised for fidelity in his calling, the remark was often added—"He was a soldier under Cromwell; he was a member of Cromwell's army." Compare these men with the soldiers of the Middle Kingdom. The philosophy of the contrast, as I have said, is in the influences of that soldier's Bible.

We may look again at the Bible, in illustration of its power, as a reforming influence in society and in the world. I know it is often thought that the Bible does not help much in the work of reform; and it is often, undoubtedly, opposed to many technical schemes of reform. It does not square with all our ideas of what reform should be; and yet it is, in its influence upon human society, thoroughly a reforming power in the world.

I am often asked, 'How do you explain the fact that so many who believe in the Bible, that so many who profess to draw from it the teachings which are to guide them in their lives, at this day, and in our own country, are found upholding and defending a system of enormous iniquity, from its pages?' I have a simple answer; it seems to me to embrace the whole philosophy of the matter. Once, when traveling in the woods of Maine, I heard of an Irishman who had been sent up to Sullivan's Camp to join a party of laborers who were there cutting timber to be floated down the Kennebec. He was told that when he came to a certain point in the road he would see a guide-board with the words—"Right, Sullivan's Camp,"—and that he was there to turn to the right, and keep on, as directed. Well, he went on, and came to that guide-board, and read it correctly, and then took it down and put it under his arm; and so he went on, mile after mile, and whenever he came to a fork in the roads, he took out his guide-board and read, "Right, Sullivan's Camp," and took the right hand road; and the result was, as you may imagine, that although he was going right by the record all the way, he was also constantly going wrong, and soon became lost—not knowing where he was, or how to find his way out. Now, Sir, my explanation is, that the science of the application of the Scriptures has always been a great way

behind the science of reading the Scriptures. The man read his guide-board right, but did not apply it right.

If we are to estimate the influence of the Bible, we are to look at its influence not merely at one point, and upon a single person. If we see a ship-launch, we are not to estimate the motion and the direction of that vessel by the little waves that come rippling back against the ways down which it has passed, but by the great waves which it rolls on before it. upon some highland, and see a winding river, carrying fertility through the intervale below, we are not to estimate the direction of that river by simply one observation, but we are to take into account the whole direction of that which floats upon its bosom. Now, Sir, let any man review the past, let him look at the world as it was when the leaves of this book were first opened for the healing of nations, and let him look at the world to-day, and then let him answer what has been the influence of the Bible. Has it, or has it not, been a reforming power in society, so that there is no other power which the historian has noticed to be compared with it?

Why, Sir, you have undoubtedly, as you have pursued your legal studies, been refreshed, from time to time, in going back to the days of the Roman law, by seeing how that science has advanced and become more beneficent in its influence, as the Christian ideas have from age to age entered into its progress. Take so simple a matter as the history of land rents, in England, in Europe, and in Asia. Observe how the right of property has been restricted as to its subject to things, and how it has been extended as a prerogative to all classes in the community. back to the history of England, and see by what gradual processes thousands of tillers of the soil have been elevated from predial servitude, to the immunities and dignity of freeholders. Mark how over Europe, to-day, laborers are rising in social position, in intelligence and power. And you will feel that there is a mighty influence at work lifting up the masses to the true dignity of manhood. Nor will you doubt that the main element in this movement is the truth which has come into men's minds from that sacred Word. It has been a moral movement; its strength has been in moral ideas, in those lessons of God, and our equality before Him, of personal reponsibility, of justice and reciprocity, which that volume inculcates. And if it had not been for such ideas, coming from that source, we may be sure that this whole mighty movement, which has elevated our modern civilization so far above all the civilizations of the past, never would have taken place.

I intended to allude, also, to the influence of the Bible, not simply in educating and reforming and elevating men, but to its power in bringing the soul out of darkness into the light of Heaven. For this influence of the Bible we have already, in the appropriate utterances of the opening prayer, returned our thanksgivings to God. But I pass by this,—as I see that I am trespassing somewhat upon the time allotted to another,—to speak a word upon the encouragement which we have during the present year to enter with fresh zeal and energy into the work of distributing the Scriptures.

The soldiers have been referred to. It was but the other day that I saw a letter from a soldier now at Fortress Monroe, one who has gone out from this community; and that person, in the solemnity of the hour which he sees before him, confesses that he feels, as he has never felt before in all the previous years of his life, his dependence upon God, and his need of enlightenment from God's Word. And who can doubt that there are multitudes of such, who, in the times of peril and anxiety and distress which may be around them, would gladly turn for consolation and support to this Volume of Revelation; that in the many families into which mourning and sadness may be brought, there are also many hearts which will need, as they never needed before, the comforting words of this same blessed volume?

And, Sir, while God is thus ploughing and harrowing, as it were, the fields which are around us, let us be instant, earnest, and active in casting into them the seeds of His truth. We have stern work given us to do. We are called upon, in God's providence, to plant the interests of civil and religious freedom on this continent, on a throne of dominion so firm that they never can be shaken. Sir, we have the Puritan's work to do, and we need the Puritan's faith in God, and the Puritan's Bible, that we may accomplish it. And it is a gratifying sign to see how

men of all positions and modes of thinking are beginning to unite in the prayer,—

"Wake in our breasts the living fires, The holy faith, that warmed our sires."

And in this disposition, Sir, we see every sign of encouragement to engage with fresh ardor in distributing the Scriptures.

I move, Sir, therefore, with the greatest pleasure, that the Report, which encourages us to expect such earnest effort, be accepted.

Rev. FALES H. NEWHALL was then introduced, and said:

MR. PRESIDENT:—This Society is founded upon an axiom, whose truth the world has been slow in comprehending, as it has gradually broken upon the consciousness and understandings of men, but which, when once seen, is seized upon by the human mind with all the force of intuition. That axiom is this: 'Truth can take care of itself, in this universe of God.' This, I say, is the foundation on which this Society rests, a truth which has been seen dimly in ages gone, which has been adumbrated here and there by an aphorism of a philosopher or by a line of song, but which for the first time burst on the world in full-orbed splendor when the Christian system rose.

Scatter truth into the world, and it will fight its own way. That is the axiom of this Society. It has shield and helmet of its own, to defend itself; it has weapons that will insure its success.

Here is a world to be transformed; and the only instrument let down from heaven for this work is naked truth, as it is presented to the world by human activity, in human character, and in human works. The only material on which that truth is to operate, is the human conscience and the human understanding; the only reward promised, is the reward of walking eternally in its sunshine; the only threatening which is offered is the threat of stumbling forever through the midnight of error.

Now, Sir, there is in this a sublimity which to every man is ennobling and inspiriting. There is a sublime faith in man, as

God has set him here on this planet, the architect of his own destiny. There is a sublime faith in God's eternal providence and resistless laws. Give men the truth, and the truth will do its own work. And as we thus stand before truth in all her majesty, how petty all human instrumentalities appear. Human organizations, human associations, all dwindle into insignificance there. Why, they are but the pioneers, they are but the axe-men that clear away the rubbish from before her chariot wheels.

This Society is organized simply to bring this artillery of Scripture truth within range of human nature. It did not invent that artillery, did not discover it, does not pretend to serve it, to load, to aim, to discharge it; all these things are provided for elsewhere in the economy of God's providence. It is but to plant it within point-blank range of human nature, and the conquest then is one of which we are sure.

It is unnecessary for me to say, Sir, and friends, that in this sublime confidence which the Gospel manifests in its own vitality, there is an overwhelming demonstration of that vitality. Here we see the native confidence that truth ever has in herself. Truth, self-poised, conscious of her own eternity and omnipotence,—this alone could have had such confidence. Error cowers away into the darkness; truth only rushes forth into the sunshine, and challenges the world,—"Is not my garment seamless?" Truth only dashes into the very furnace of trial, in the confidence that the hotter the flame may be, the clearer the demonstration that she is immortal.

But the truth, the vitality of the Scriptures is one thing, and the individual consciousness of that truth is another and a totally different thing. There may be a gold mine on my farm, and yet, if I do not know it, it no more enriches me than if it were in the Indies. So it is with truth. It may be ever so omnipotent, ever so eternal; unless by my own spiritual insight I see it so to be, it gives me none of its sublime vitality. Now then, the truth of the Scriptures, as it has been seen by apostles, by martyrs, as it was mined into by Luther, by Augustine, by Chrysostom, cannot enrich me. It is only when beheld by my own spiritual insight, that it makes me rich. There is no Columbus of Scripture truth. Each man must discover for

himself. Discover, I say; for truth is discovered by every human being to whom it is truth. My neighbor's eye can no more see my truth than his stomach can digest my food. There are no two human beings who ever beheld the same rainbow in the shower. There is the circle of which my eye is the centre; and the circle of which your eye is the centre is the bow that you see; and the circle of truths, that God's providence has set around me, must refract and reflect that light to my eye, in order that I may enjoy the glorious vision. The Bible is seen to be true by me as it never was by a human being before on this It must be so seen in order to be a Bible to me. to me there are aspects of truth, there are presentations of difficulty, of doubt, there are presentations of the Divine attributes, that till now have never been set before man, in all human history. The Bible is beheld by my own eye at an angle at which it never lay till now before human vision other man on this earth can find my Bible between those lids. God spreads the page before me as if I stood alone on this planet, and he challenges me, "Is not that written to thy hopes and fears? Is it not written to thy doubts and difficulties? Does it not satisfy thy loftiest aspirations, thy deepest desires?" And this question I must answer and settle for myself before God; and unless it be thus settled to my own spiritual insight, satisfactorily, I have no Bible in the universe of God.

Now when this spiritual insight is blinded, as in the case of the contemptuous infidel, or where it is beclouded, as in the case of the weak but well-meaning Christian, then the Bible is not by that person seen to be true; and therefore, in all ages of the history of the Scriptures, it is difficult to tell which of these two classes of individuals have most hindered the progress of Scripture truth, the contemptuous infidel, or the weak, half-believing Christian. Now the man who has real spiritual insight, and believes this truth out of that spiritual insight, is willing to risk his Bible anywhere on the earth, in any furnace of trial.

But in every age of the Christian church, at every point of intellectual progress, it has been announced,—"These are the discoveries that are to annihilate the Scripture truth, this is the great light that is to display all its wrinkles and deform-

ities, and now it will slink away into oblivion." Every new metaphysical theory has been announced to be the Damascus blade that was to pierce it to the heart. Every new field of science that has been opened, was to bristle with weapons that were to drink its blood. Every fresh page that has been turned in the volume of nature, we have been told was the page on which we might read the epitaph of the Scriptures. In fact, in our generation, several times, within our own observation, the announcement has been made that the history of the decline and fall of this mighty power was already written by German critics, French naturalists, English and American spiritualists and spiritists. Yet, notwithstanding all, its sceptre is higher, to-day, than ever before, and it waves over a mightier and broader empire, to-day, than ever before in human history.

There are those who, for the lack of this spiritual insight of which I have spoken, are forever tormented by strange fears; every new planet that is discovered, every new fossil that is unearthed, every fresh page of manuscript that is unrolled, every old hieroglyph from which the dust is wiped away, every infidel battery that is planted in the bosky recesses of some recondite science or on the airy heights of imagination, is to be the thing, they fear, that is to overturn the Scriptural Mr. President, if to-day I could, by speaking a single word, annihilate the infidel literature of this earth, I would not speak it. God understands the power of the truth better than you or I, and His providence is content that that literature should remain. Infidel literature is a magazine of weapons for the Christian warrior. The most invulnerable pieces of his armor are forged in the very furnaces of Satanic depravity. Men who have these fears are akin to those who should fear to see a squad of Blackfeet Indians charging upon a battery; why, a scattered artilleryman may be slain here and there, but we well know that war-whoop and tomahawks and scalpingknives are no match for rifled cannon. There are some who seem to think of Scripture truth as if it were a delicate China vessel, beautiful to look upon, but so fragile that it must be handled with extreme care, lest the slightest jar or concussion should annihilate it. Such men dishonor God by their weak,

squeamish fears. In the noble language of Milton:—"Though all the winds of heaven were let loose upon the earth, so truth be in the field, we injure her to doubt her strength."

No, Sir, let this Bible truth be tested; and as its claims are immeasurably higher than those of any other book, let the test be immeasurably more severe. It can be held close to the eye, and scrutinized through the latest magnifying power of the microscope; it can be carried afar to the heavens, and beheld through the telescope of the astronomer; it can be dissected by the scalpel of the anatomist; it can bear to have its commas and its particles weighed in the hair balances of verbal criticism; it can be beaten under the hammer of the geologist; passed through the fires of the laboratory; sifted through the sieves of the metaphysician; crushed in the anaconda folds of logic;—and all these processes will only demonstrate more and more that it is, like its God, changeless and eternal.

And, Sir, while we appreciate the chivalry that dashes forward to the defense of truth, yet let it be clearly understood that there is such a thing as being too officious in volunteering aid. Will or nill, let it be understood, Truth will take care of herself in these controversies; and men, systems, churches, institutions, are but pawns upon her board. Alas for the church! alas for the men! alas for the institutions! that think themselves necessary to the truth of the Bible. They will be scattered like dust from her chariot wheels. She uses friends or enemies, at will. And how she is to use us, we know not; but we know that if we have keen, clear spiritual insight of this truth, we shall be used to her glory. Sir, the astonishing events of the present hour admonish us that this truth is using our government, our church, our literature, our trade, our commerce, in a way of which our fathers did not dream, when they rooted these institutions in Bible truth. Bible truth has been a rich mould around the roots of these institutions, fattening them into astonishing luxuriance in the eyes of all the world. But it has also been a lava flood, whose great throb has heaved this country from ocean to ocean, and now convulses it in the agony we all feel to-day.

These Bible truths,—man's individual worth, man's indi

out over all the artificial inequalities of human nature, and leveling them all before the eye of civil law, as they are leveled before the eyes of Him who looks down on all human distinctions from the long perspective of eternity,—these are the truths that, in this land, were for the first time in human history incarnated into political institutions. They had been theoretically seen before; here, for the first time, they were practically set up before the gaze of mankind. The world was not fully ripe for them, until the Mayflower scattered those precious seeds over these Massachusetts rocks; and the American government is to decide whether yet indeed it be ripe for these divine germs. I say they have been beheld before, at a distance, from the cloisters of the student, from the closets of saints; but they had never before been incarnated and hardened into political institutions, as they have been in America. And here they are interwoven through church and school and state. are the foundations, firm as the strata of our own soil, which our fathers laid here and cemented together with their tears and their blood, and reared upon them these walls and this dome of government, that enfolds us in its arms to-day.

But, alas! side by side with these precious truths, there were sown, like the dragon's teeth, old-world heresies of caste in blood and labor; and there have sprung from these, armed traitors who, with bloody hands, attempt to pull down these walls, this dome, to-day. Let that dome fall and crush us, let these walls crumble before the traitors' cannon, and bury us beneath their dust, ere that traitorous flag shall float where our fathers flung to the breeze the banner of Christian freedom.

And more, Mr. President. In these truths to which I have alluded, incarnated in American institutions, consists the whole individuality of the American nation. This is her title-deed, that Providence has given. Her only right to live on this earth is in proportion as she carries out this plan of God, as she upholds these truths, and keeps them in the eyes of the nations, standing here in the history of our race. These truths are the precious freight which our nation was given to transport, as her cargo over this present age, down to the coming nations. And if, in this howling storm, this precious cargo be flung overboard, in the vain hope to save the ship, while her cordage is creaking

and her timbers are starting on every side, God will remorselessly strow the waves with her fragments, and all history will say Amen!

Let us not blink, let us not shut out of sight the magnitude of the issue that is upon us. The question that we are called upon to answer, to-day, involves the existence of the American That question is, Shall this Government, the latest crystalization of these Bible truths, stand, or be annihilated? This it is, Christian men, that you and I are called upon to answer to-day, not with words, but with steel! Are we ready for the answer? God forbid, Mr. President, Christian men around me, God forbid that one of us here present should survive the ruin of our nation. "There is a time to be born," says the wise man, "and there is a time to die;" and if this be the time, written in God's awful book, when the hand has circled the dial of our nation's destiny, and when the knell of this country, of these institutions, is to toll in the ears of those millions of all lands who are stretching their hands towards us with streaming eyes and bursting hearts,—then, Christian men and fathers around me, I say, this, for us, is the time to die! Yes, if these traitors are to tear down the walls our fathers reared, and if the Rattlesnake is to hiss above these blackened ruins, then the Christian man of New England, who to-day dies peacefully in his bed, will meet with cold greetings from the spirits of Hampden and Henry Vane in the courts of heaven.

But, Mr. President, all great questions, at the last analysis, are religious. And this question, in common with all others, when we get down to the root of it, is a religious one, and could be shown to be such from a thousand different points of view. It is enough to say that such an excitement as pervades this land, as throbs through this air, to-day, could happen in no other nation this world has ever seen. It could never happen except among a people that had been fed from the open Bible. It is the Scripturally awakened conscience that heaves this land to-day. This is a question of no mere expediency, not one of self-interest. I repeat, it is one of conscience, and our mighty, invincible ally in this struggle, is the Scripturally awakened conscience of America, and of the whole civilized world; yea, that ally is in the camp of our enemy also, and

wherever men think and pray, and read the open Bible for themselves. All over this land these Bibles have been scattered, and nowhere else have so many millions been fed from the open Bible as here; and nowhere else, at the first bugle-call of duty, could such hosts be seen springing to their feet. These millions that rise and shake the whole land by their tread, as they rush to the aid of our political institutions, rise from the Bibles which through all these generations have been sown over these bleak New England hills, and have been scattered thence to the far oceanic swell of the prairies.

And now, still farther,—I will not detain you long,—but to one thought more I ask attention in this connection, which is this; that it is from the Bible that the Northern mind has been instructed in its deep reverence for law, which is such a bulwark and such a weapon to us to-day. That reverence for law holds our millions as with a silken thread, chafing and restive as they may be; while yet it allows them to set up or pull down lawgivers or law-executors like puppets. This feeling, in which we have been instructed from the Bible, is something which cannot be understood through the regions of Secessiondom. How it can be that men can so quietly submit to wrong, and bow their necks at the mandate of law, is something that cannot be comprehended there; for the majestic patience of New England is not understandable where there is but a semi-Christianized conscience. Here, in New England, this reverence for law falls upon us from the awful skirts of Mount Sinai. Yea, and let it be understood that this, which is mistaken now for cowardice, is a terrible weapon when it is once unsheathed. But when this same law, which has curbed down and bridled in these restive millions for all these generations, lets the rein drop upon their necks, and bids them dash upon their foe, when this voice, so omnipotent to hush, is lifted up to arouse this storm and bid it burst with all its thunders, let our foes understand that the longer this storm has been gathering, the fiercer and swifter and hotter will be the bolts of death. It is the Bible that has kept back these thunders, and it is the Bible that now bids them fly.

Law, liberty, justice, truth, these sublime realities, brethren, are to conquer or to die on this continent, in this struggle.

From the Bible we have learned to reverence and to love those awful names more than life itself. It is not for houses or lands, not for business, not for docks or warehouses, that we These are "things seen, things temporal." It draw the sword. is for law, liberty, truth, justice, "things unseen and eternal." Our churches, our court-houses, stand in their awful shade; our homes nestle under their wings. As they hover over these New England hills, there drop from them blessings, as the dews from the wings of the morning, blessings unimagined in any other Alas! alas! when these spiritual nation in all the earth. powers spread their wings and fly away! Let our houses be laid in ashes, let our fields be laid waste, let our ships be sunk to the ocean caves, let the millions of our brothers, our husbands, our sons, be buried beneath the clod,—if these remain, all will smile again, new houses will rise, new fields will bloom, new ships will spring from the seas, all are saved if these remain; but if they are lost, I repeat it, all is lost. And if they are to depart, O! Christian men and women, let us gird up our loins and be ready to go with them. Let them not leave us here; let us depart with them, if we would hear our Master say, "Well done!"

The meeting was then closed with the doxology and benediction.

CONSTITUTION.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

SEC. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Brown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

- SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal, which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.
- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.

Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

BY-LAWS.

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At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

ARTICLE 1.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

ARTICLE 11.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Tressurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice President, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice President and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository,—each of said Committees to consist of three persons.

ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository annually, four copies of the Common Bible, or the value thereof, (1,00,) in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

MEMBERS FOR LIFE.

Abbe, Mrs. Frederick R., Abington. *Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. Adams, Nebemiah, D. D., Beston. Adams, Stephen W., Medway. Adkins, Miss Mary J., South Deerfield. Albree, John, Boston. Albro, John A., D. D., Cambridge. Albro, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Albro, Miss Annie E. Alden, Almira S. C., Fozbore'. Alden, Russell, Campelle. Alden, Miss Sarah B., Randelph. Alden, Miss Susan, Allen, Richard H., Braintres. Andrews, Artemas F., Fitchburg. Andrews, C. L., Boston. Andrews, W. T. *Appleton, Samuel, Boston. Appleton, William, Atwood, John W., Chatham. Babcock, Mrs. Nancy, Boston. Babcock, Rev. William R., Jamaica Plain. Bacon, Jacob, Gloucester. Bacon, Rev. James M., Essez. Baker, Mrs. Eleanor J. W., Derchester. Baker, Francis, South Danvers. Ball, Miss Elizabeth, Concord. Barber, Martin, Sherbern. Barker, Hiram, Brighton. Barnard, William F., Mariboro. *Barnes, William, Bartlett, Thomas, Boston. Bassett, Henry, Newton. Bayley, Robert, Newburyport. Beal, Alexander, Besten. Beebe, James M. Beebe, Mrs. James M. " Beebe, Charles E. Beebe, Francis L. " Beebe, Edward P. " " Beebe, Emily B. " Beebe, Mary L. Beecher, Rev. William H., No. Brockfield. Belknap, Miss Martha M., Framingham. Blanchard, Miss Frances C., Greton. Blood, Cyrus, Winshester.

Bodwell, Rev. J. C., Framingham. *Bond, George, Boston. Bowers, Luke K. Bowers, Mrs. Cara H. Brackett, James, Quincy. Brackett, Lemuel, *Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgetown. Brant, Aaron, South Reading. Brood, Rev. William J., Southbord'. Brewer, Cyrus, Dorchester. Brickett, Franklin, Haverhill. Briggs, Rev. William T., Princeton. Briggs, Mrs. Abby L. *Bromfield, Elizabeth, *Besten.* *Brooks, Peter C. Brooks, Peter C. Brown, Joseph, Greten. Bucklin, Simon S., Breckline. Bulkley, Mrs. Catharine F., Groton. Burge, Lorenzo, Boston. Burr, Charles C., Auburndale. Burrage, J. C., Besten. Butler, Rev. Daniel, Groton. Butler, Mrs. Jane D. Cady, Rev. Daniel R., West Cambridge. Cady, Mrs. Harriet S. Capen, Mrs. Charles, Framinghem. Carpenter, Catharine E., Fozbere'. Carpenter, Daniel, Carpenter, Edson, Cary, George C., N. Bridgeweter. Cary, Mrs. Mary D., Fozboro'. Chapin, Caleb T., Whitinsville. Chase, Ann Maria, HaverMill. Chase, Hezekiah A., Lynn. Chase, Robert, Haverhill. Child, Miss Lucy, Thetferd, Vt. Childs, Carlos, Henniker, N. H. Childs, Horace, Choate, David, Salem. *Clap, James, Dorchester. Clap, Mrs. Rebocca, Boston. Clapp, James B. Clapp, John C. Clark, George, Concord.

Clark, James G., Andever.

Clark, John L., Andover. Clark, Jonathan, Winchester. Clark, Oliver R. Clark, Miss Nelly, Sherborn. Clark, Rev. P. K., South Deerfield. Clark, Rev. Rufus W., Brooklyn, N. Y. Clarke, Mrs. Adeliza H., Medway. Clarke, Francis, Haverhill. Clary, Mrs. S. S., Warsham. Cleaveland, Waldo, South Deerfield. Clifford, Wyatt B., Chatham. Cobb, Andrew B., Newton. Cobb, Jacob, Abington. Cobb, Rev. L. H., Andover. *Cobb, Richard, Boston. *Codman, Charles R. Codman, Mrs. Catharine, " Colby, Albert, Colby, Barak, Henniker, N. H. Cole, Miss Ella A., Medway. Conn, Horace, Woburn. Cook, Asa, Newton. Coolidge, Joseph, Boston. Coolidge, Lowell, Sherborn. Copp, Mrs. Fedora F., Chelsea. Cousens, Beulah F., Newton Centre. Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Curtis, Abner, East Abington. Cushman, George H., North Bridgewater. Cutter, Stephen, Winchester. Cutter, Stephen H. Damon, Albert P., Reading. Dana, Samuel, Boston. Dana, Charles B., Brookline. Dane, John H. Daniell, Mrs. Eliza B., E. Medway. Davis, Alvah M., Haverkill. Davis, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Northboro'. Davis, James, Boston. Day, Robert L., Newton. Dickson, Oliver, Somerville. Dickson, Mrs. Sarah E. " Denham, Rev. George, Barre. Denham, Mrs. Clara D. " Dix, Mrs. Elijah, Boston. Dodd, Rev. S. G., Spencer. Dodge, Rev. John, Harvard. Dodge, Mrs. Ann S. Dodge, Mrs. J. M. C., Andover. Doggett, Mrs. Frances L., Groveland. *Dorr, John, Boston. *Dow, Josiah, " *Dowse, Edward, Dedkam. Dudley, P. W., Whitinsville. Dunham, Charles H., Winchester. Dunlap, Sumner, South Deerfield. Dunn, Edward H., Boston. Dutch, Elizabeth M. "

Dyer, Rev. E. Porter, Hingham. Eager, William, Boston. Eames, Mrs. Nancy, Sherborn. Eastburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, Boston. Eaton, Eben, Framingham. Eaton, Miss Martha W., Fitchburg. Eaton, William, Boston. Eaton, William J., Westboro'. Eddy, Joshua, East Middleboro'. *Eliot, Samuel, Boston. Eliot, Samuel A. *Elwell, Robert, Emerson, R. V. C., Newter. Emery, Mrs. Harriet, North Weymouth. Everett, Edward, Boston. Farnsworth, Mrs. Abel, Groton. Farwell, Stephen T., Cambridge. Fay, Cyrus, Westboro'. Fearing, Albert, Boston. Fearing, Mrs. Albert, " Fisher, Miss Eliza, Medway. Fitz, Rev. Daniel, Ipswick. Fitz, Daniel, Jr., Fletcher, Rev. James F., Danvers. Fletcher, Mrs. Lydia M. Fletcher, Mrs. L. C., Whitinsville. Fletcher, Stillman, Winchester. Ford, Rev. George, East Falmoutk. Ford, Thomas A., Beston. Ford, Thomas A., North Bridgewater. Ford, Mrs. Eliza C. Fosdick, Charles, Groton. Fosdick, Frederick, Foedick, Rose, Fosdick, Samuel W. " Fosdick, Miss Mary, " Foster, Rev. Aaron, E. Charlemont. Foster, Miss Eliza C., Rowley. *Francis, Ebenezer, Boston. Furber, Rev. Daniel L., Newton. Furber, Mrs. Maria B. Gale, Rev. Wakefield, Rockport, *Gale, Mrs. Wakefield, " Gale, Justin Edwards, Gallot, Nathan, Groton. Garrette, Rev. Edmund Y., Millbury. Garrette, Mrs. Franzenia W. " Garrette, Mary Spring, *Gibbs, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Gilman, Miss Robecca I., Bradford. Gordon, Solomon J., Boston. Gordon, Mrs. Rebecca, " Gordon, Jeannie, Gott, J. R., Rockport. Grant, Moses, Beston. *Gray, Francis C. " *Gray, Henry, " Gray, Horace,

Gray, John C., Besten. Grooley, Rev. Edward H., Methuen. Greeley, Mrs. Edward H. Green, Rov. J. S. C., Newton. Greenwood, Mrs. Sally K., Sterlern. "Grew, John, Boston. Grover, Mrs. Caroling, Fortere'. Hule, E. J. M., Haverhill. Hall, Mrs. Joseph P Greten. *Hammatt, Mrs. Mary, Beston. Hammond, Rev. W. B., Marrisville, N. Y. Rammond, Mrs. Louise M. Bardwick, Thomas, Quincy. Hardy, Trumen, Manchester. fluttings, Hollis, Franceghem. Hatel, Benjamin, East Falmouth. Hawes, Cynthin, Frentham. Hayward, Eliza, Braintree. Hayward, Paul, Ashby. Headley, Rev. P C Greenfield. Healy, Rev. Joseph W., Waipele. Heard, John, Ipswick. Bebron, Mise Priecilla, Rowley. Harney, Jacob, Fozbero'. Hewins, Mrs. Annette P , Fezhere'. Hewips, Levi R. *Higgiesen, Stephen, Jr., Boston. Hildreth, Mrs. Mary R., Groten. *Hill, Henry, Boston. Hill, Jotham, Weburn. Hitchcook, Gnorge M., Brimfeld. Holm, J. P. Manthester. Holmer, Abiel, D. D. Cambridge. Bolmer, Mun E. A., Andever-Homer, Charles W., Cambridge. Hooker, George B., Sherhern. Hooper, Robert, Bestex. Hoppin, Rev. James M., Selem. Hosmer, Miss Eliza, Concord. Hovey, George O., Besten. How, Prederick, Danvers. "Bow, James, Beston. Howe, John, Howes, Colline, Chatham. Howard, Cary, North Bridgewater. Howard, David, Hoyt, Mrs. Marie, Francischem. Hulbert, Charles, Boston. Humphrey, Daniel, North Weymouth. *Hyslop, David, Boston. Jackson, James, *Juckson, Patrick T. " Jephece, Mise C. R., Breekling. Johnson, Mrs. Emma E., Bradford. Johnson, Peter R., Helliston. Johnson, Mrs. S. W., Farmington, N. H. Jones, Heary E., Hellisten. for Alb

Keep, N. C., Baston. Kaith, Adelbert F., Campella. Keith, Albert, Keith, Asza B., North Bridgewater. *Knith, Churles, Keith, Zoba C., Campelle. Kendall, Mrs. Abel M., Besten. Kendrick, Mrs. Lydia F., Chatham. Kerr, Robert W., Fexbore'. Kerr, Jane K. Kettelle, Jacob Q., Besten. Kimball, Benjamia, 2d, Haverhill. Kimball, David, Bradford. Kimball, Mrs. Sylvia, *Grafto*s. Kingman, Mice Sarah, Boston. *Koowles, Hev. James D. " Knoz, Mrs. B., Rock Island, Ill. Lambert, Miss Elizabeth G., Resoley. Lambert, Rev. Thomas S., Charlestown. Lamion, Edwin, Boston. Lamsoo, Mrs. Edwin, " Lamson, Helea, Lane, Richmond J., East Abington. Langworthy, Rav. Issac P., Chelses. Lackin, Lydia E., Chatter, N. H. Lazell, Josiah, Auberndale. *Lawrence, Amos, Batters. Lawrence, Ass, Greton. Lawrence, Mrs. M. A. Lawrence, Curtis, Lawrence, Mrs. Nancy T., Salem, N. H. Leach, Simeon, Stoughton. Leavitt, Mrv. Elexabeth G., Boston. Leeds, Benjamin, Breeking. Leeds, Benjamin, Jr. 😘 Leeds, Mrs. Anne B. " Leeds, Miss Anne G. " Less, Mrs. Samuel, Concord. Lafavour, lamehar, Beverly. Leland, Calvin, Jr., Natick. Leonard, Eliza, Festere'. Leonard, James M., Bridgemater. Lewis, Reaben, Groton. Lancoln, F W., Jr., Beston. Lincola, Nuch, Little, Rev. E. G., North Middlebere'. Livermore, George, Cambridge. Locke, Ephraum, Beston. Locke, Miss Mary O., Bradford. Loomie, Boy B. Littleton. Lord, John A., South Danvers. Lord, Louisa C , Manchester. *Lowell, Charles, D. D., Besten. Lumb, William, Lyman, Rev. George, Suitan-Malthy, Rev. Erectus, Touaten. Munning, Edward W., Webern.

Marsh, Elizabeth C., Haverkill. Marsh, E. J., Groton. Marsh, Miss Julia M., Haverhill. *Marston, William, Boston. *McKean, William, *McLean, Mrs. Ann, " Means, Rev. John O., Rozbury. Means, Mrs. John O. Messenger, Miss Eliza, Fitchburg. Mills, Rov. C. L., North Bridgewater. Mills, Mrs. Rebecca B. Minot, William, Boston. Minot, William, Jr. " Mixter, Mrs. Fanny L., Boston. Mixter, Mrs. Mary R., Hardwick. Mixter, Mrs. S. E., Rock Island, Ill. Moore, Rev. George, Andover. Moar, Rufus, Groton. Mordough, Rev. John H., Hamilton. Morley, Rev. S. B., Williamstown. Morrison, Miss Nancy T., Rowley. Morse, Miss Abby P., Emporia, Kansas. Morse, Charles N., Fozboro'. Morse, Miss Emily A., Bradford. Morse, Henry, Natick. Mosman, Walter B., Chicopee. Munger, Rev. Theodore T., Dorchester. Murray, Rev. James O., Cambridgeport. Murray, Mrs. Julia R. Nason, Rev. Elias, Exeter, N. H. *Newell, Montgomery, Boston. Nichols, James R., Haverhill. Nightingale, Rev. Crawford, Groton. Norcross, Josiah, South Reading. Nourse, Daniel, West Medicay. Noyes, Alva, North Bridgewater. Odlin, Benjamin, Ezeter, N. H. Odlin, Mrs. E. T. Ordway, Aaron L., New York city. Ordway, Miss Charlotte, Bradford. Osborn, George F., South Danvers. Osgood, H. B., Whitinsville. Packard, Rev. D. Temple, Campello. Packard, Zibeon, Abington. Paine, Mrs. Sarah M., Holden. Paine, Miss Sarah C. *Palmer, Rev. Stephen, Needham Park, John C., Boston. " *l'arker, John, " Parker, Mrs. Surah, *Parkman, Francis, D. D. *Parkman, Samuel, " Parkman, Mrs. Saruh, Parmenter, Mrs. E. J. G., Peterskam. *Parsons, Gorham, Boston. *Parsons, William, Partridge, Joseph, Helliston. Patrick, Rev. Henry J., Bedford.

Paul, Henry, Newton. Paul, Luther, Payson, Miss Susan, Fozboro'. Pease, George W., Salem. Pearson, Miss Hannah J., Lowell. Peckhain, Hubbard, Peterskam. Perkins, E. E., N. Middleboro'. *Perkins, James, Boston. *Perkins, James, Jr. *Perkins, Thomas H. " Perley, Jacob, South Danvers. Perry, Miss Catharine H., Skerborn. *Peters, Edward D., Boston. Pettee, Miss Eliza J., Fozboro'. Pottee, Samuel Gardner, Stoughton. Phillips, Alonzo P., South Danvers. *Phillips, Jonathan, Boston. Phillips, Mrs. Sally, *Phillips, William, Pickard, Rev. Daniel W., Groveland. Pierpont, Rev. John, Medford. Plumb, Rev. A. H., Chelsea. Plumb, Joseph Dart, Pond, Almira W., South Malden. Pond, John P., Boston. Pond, Mrs. Nancy, Medway. Poor, Joseph, South Danvers. Poor, Nathan H. " Porter, Samuel S., Winchester. Pratt, Cornelius, North Weymouth Pratt, Galen, North Bridgewater. Pratt, Norton, Braintree. *Prescott, William, Boston. *Prince, Rev. J. M., Georgetown. Princo, Mrs. Sarah B. Proctor, Thorndike, South Danvers. Quincy, Thomas D., Dorchester. Quincy, Mrs. J. C. Reed, Horace, South Abington. Rice, Mrs. Agnes L., Boston. Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth, Lawrence. Rice, Mrs. Henry A. Rich, Rev. A. B., Beverly. Richards, Mrs. A. M., Boston. Richards, J. F., Campello. Richardson, Benjamin P., Boston. Richardson, Luther, Winchester. Richardson, Miss Sarah E., Concord. Richardson, Sumner, Winchester. *Ritchie, Andrew, Jr., Boston. Robbins, Andrew, Groton. Robbins, Chandler, D. D., Boston. *Robbins, Edward H. Roberts, Rev. Jacob, East Medicay. Roberts, Mrs. Mary A. Robinson, H. W., North Bridgewater. Rockwood, John, Groton. Rockwood, Miss Polly S., Askland.

Rogers, George, Boston. *Rogers, Rev. William M., Besten. Russell, Sarah J., Framingham. Safford, Rev. George B., Northbridge. *Salisbury, Samuel, Boston. Sargent, L. M. Sawtell, Ephraim, Groton. Scudder, Charles, Besten. Reudder, Mrs. Sarah L. " Seeley, Rev. Raymond H., Haverhill. Secley, Mrs. Fanny B. Selfridge, Thomas O., Bestez. Phattuck, Andrew, Groton. Shaw, Mrs. Hannah, Boston. Sheldon, Rev. Luther, Westbere'. Sheldon, Mrs. Sarah H. Shiverick, Miss Maria L., Campelle. *Sigourney, Andrew, Besten. Sigourney, Henry, *Slack, Ruggles. Slafter, Rev. Edmund F. " Small, Samuel A., Millbury. Smith, Rev. Edward P., Pepperell. Smith, Rev. Matson M., Bridgeport, Ct. Smith, Mrs. Matson M. Smith, Norman, M. D., Groton. Smith, Richard, South Denvers. Smith, Mrs. Charlotte, " *Smith, Samuel, Boston. Snow, Mrs. Caroline, Newton. Snow, Mrs. Mark, Chatham. Soule, Henry M., South Abington. Southgate, Rev. Robert, Ipswick. Southgate, Mrs. Mary Frances, " Spooner, W. B., Boston. Stevens, Norman C. " Stevens, Mrs. E. M. " Stoddard, L. T., Brockline. Stone, Rev. Andrew L., Boston. Stone, Mrs. Matilda F. Stone, Martha A., Newton Centre. Sumner, Mrs. H. H., Fozboro'. Swazey, Mrs. Frances A., Lynn. Tapley, Gilbert, Danvers. Tappan, John, Boston. Teele, Rev. Albert K., Milton. Teele, Mrs. Cornelia C. Temple, Mark M., Reading. Tenney, Mrs. Mary P., Winchester. Thacher, Miss Calista C., Attlebore'. Thacher, Mrs. Susan C. Thatcher, Mary Ludlow, Middlebere'. Thayer, Amasa, Braintres. Thayer, Ira, Thayer, Mrs. Lills, " Thayer, Mrs. Jane, Boston. Thaver, Robert H., Rezbury.

Thurston, Rev. Richard B., Waltham.

Tolman, Rev. Richard, Tewksbury. Tolman, Rev. Samuel H., Wilmington. Torrey, Miss Elizabeth L., South Weymouth. Torrey, James, North Weywouth. Trask, Mrs. A. H., Manchester. Trowbridge, Mrs. Asa, Brighton. Tucker, Rev. Elijah W., Lebanon, Ct. Tucker, Mrs. Hannah W. Tucker, Jesse, Millon Tucker, Nathan, Tucker, Mrs. Nathan, " Tucker, William, Dorchester. Tuttle, Miss Sarah, Andover. Tuttle, Thomas, Littleton. Twichell, John M., Fitchburg. Tyler, Jerome W., Besten. Underhill, Rev. John W., N. Amherst. Vose, William H., Fitchburg. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. Wulcott, William, Danvers. Wales, Erastus, East Randolph. Wales, Miss Mary Ann, Boston. Walker, J. S., East Medway. Walker, Moses, Haverhill. Walker, Robert G *Walley, Samuel H., Boston. 66 Walley, Samuel H. Ward, Artemas, Ward, Salem T., Winchester. Warner, John, Newton. Warren, Mrs. Maria, Grafton. Warren, William A., Winchester. Welch, John, Boston. Weld, James, Wells, Mrs. Martha D., Northboro'. Wellman, Rev. J. W., Newton. Wendell, Mrs. Catharine, Boston. Whoeler, Miss Abby F., Concord. Whitcomb, Lewis, East Randolph. Whitcomb, Reuben, Harvard. Whitcomb, Reuben, Jr. Whitcomb, Mrs. Abby F. Whitcomb, Mrs. Louisa D. " Whitcomb, Miss Mary M. White, Cornelius, E. Randolph. *White, James, Boston. White, Josiah, Peterskam. White, Mrs. Mary C., Easton. White, Newton, East Randolph. Whitin, Charles P., Whitinsville. Whitin, Paul, Whitmarsh, Mary, South Abington. Whitney, Charles H., Fitchburg. Whitney, Mrs. Permelia V., Peterskam. *Wigglesworth, Thomas, Boston. Wilcox, Rev. William H., Reading. Wilbur, Joseph, Taunton. Wild, Daniel, Beston.

Wilson, Rev. Thomas, Stoughten.
Winslow, Pelham, East Abington.
Winthrop, Robert C., Boston.
*Winthrop, Thomas L.

Withington, Otis, Brookline.
Wolcott, William, Danvers.
Woodbury, Simon J., Sutton.
Wood, Elizabeth C., Fezbore'.
Wood, Mrs. E S., Whitinsville.

Wood, Mrs. Susan, Greten.
Woods, Miss Abbie Wheeler, Malden.
Woods, Joseph Wheeler, Besten.
Woods, Samuel H.
Woodward, Ebenezer, Newton.
Worthington, William, Boston.
Wiley, Mrs. Ann E., South Reading.
Wyman, William G., Fitchburg.

The payment of TWENTY DOLLARS constitutes the Donor a Member for Life.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

Receipts from May 1, 1860, to May 1, 1861.

SUFFOLK COUNTY.

Boston	Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,	\$ 241	0.5
Doscon,	" Rev. Mr. Alden, South Boston,	-	
	•		83
44	" Rev. Messrs. Blagden and Manning, Old		•
	South,		56
44	" Rev. Dr. Kirk, Mount Vernon,	149	
4.6	" Rev. Mr. Johnson, Bowdoin Street,	160	00
44	" Rev. Mr. Stone, Park Street,	127	05
6.6	" Rev. Mr. Todd, Winter Street,	62	00
46	" Rev. Mr. Webb, Shawmut Avenue, (2 L. :	a.) 45	00
4.6	Hedding Methodist Episcopal Church,	15	31
4.6	Dr. Giles Pease, to send Bibles to Italy,	. 12	00
46	Edward Wigglesworth, Esq., \$5; Mrs. William H.	,	
	Prescott, \$5; Theodore Lyman, Esq., \$2; John		
	R. Brewer, \$2; William R. Ware, \$1; Mrs. Sim-		
	mons, 50 cts.; E. W. Champney, \$3;		50
46	A friend, \$2; do. \$1; do. \$1; do. \$1;		00
46	"To make hay while the sun shines, in Italy,"		00
	Broadway Church and Society,		00
4.4	Chestnut Street Sabbath School, to send Bibles to		
	Italy, (2 L. M.)	40	00
		\$ 1,046	28
	ESSEX COUNTY.	-	
_		_	
	r, South Church and Parish,	\$ 102	15
Beverly	, Washington Street Church and Society,	12	00
	l, First Parish,	13	29
Bradfor	d, Congregational Church and Society, (L. M.) .	153	96
Byfield,	Congregational Church and Society,	4	65
Danver	s, First Religious Society, (1 L. M.)	26	83
44	Maple Street Church and Society, (2 L. M. bal.)	21	18
46	South Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	21	00
Essex.	First Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		11
-	own, Congregational Church and Society,		15
•	ter, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,		00
CIOUCE	me in a serious condicements current and pocietà	70	JU

Hamilton, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 9	00
Haverhill, Centre Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.) 55	90
" North Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	45	06
Ipswich, South Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	27	00
Lynn, Mrs. Frances Swazey, (1 L. M. balance,)	5	00
Manchester, Society of Rev. F. V. Tenney. (1 L. M.)	<i>5</i> 3	28
Society of Rev. George E. Freeman,	10	00
Methuen, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	46	39
Middleton, Congregational Church and Society,	6	50
Newburyport, Whitefield Church and Society,	17	34
" A lady,	20	00
" Belleville, Society of Rev. Mr. Fiske,	57	45
Rowley, Society of Rev. Mr. Pike, (2 L. M.)	42	82
Rockport, First Congregational Church and Society,	25	00
Topsfield, Congregational Church and Society,	14	00
	A 004	
	\$ 894	06
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.		
Ashby, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 10	00
Assabet, Congregational Church and Society,	₩	00
Auburndale, Congregational Church and Society,	43	00
Boxboro', Congregational Church and Society,	5	00
Cambridge, Shepard Congregational Society,	114	30
Cambridgeport, First Evan. Cong. Church and Society, .	32	17
Concord, Union Bible Society, (6 L. M.)	120	00
Dunstable, William Dunn,	2	00
Groton, Union Orthodox Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	41	00
" Joshua Green, M. D., (1 L. м. л. в. s.)	30	00
Holliston, Congregational Church and Society,	42	24
Hopkinton, Congregational Church and Society,	13	50
" A friend,	1	00
Littleton, Congregational Church and Society,	7	50
Lowell, Appleton Street Church and Society,	14	57
" High Street Church and Society,	17	00
" John Street Church and Society,	27	57
" Mrs. Zadock Rogers, (1 L. D. A. B. S.)	150	00
Newton, Eliot Church, (4 L. M.)	81	75
" Henry Paul, (1 L. M.)	20	00
" Mrs. Sophia Stone, (2 L. M.)	40	00
Pepperell, Congregational Church and Society,	7	39
Saxonville, Edwards Church,	16	58
Sherborn, Female Reading and Benevolent Society, (2 L. M.)	40	00
Shirley, Congregational Church and Society,	4	25
Somerville, First Orthodox Cong. Church and Society, .	40	13
Sudbury, Congregational Church and Society,	12	87
Tewksbury, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) .	28	00

Townsend, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 20	24
Waltham, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society, .	•	00
Wayland, Congregational Church and Society,		54
Westford, Union Church and Society,		60
Winchester, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)		
w menesier, congregational church and Society, (5 L. M.)	104	06
	\$ 1,149	26
WORCESTER COUNTY.		
Barre, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 35	20
Berlin, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,	17	00
Charlton, Congregational Church and Society,	8	60
Dana, Congregational Church and Society,	8	00
Fitchburg, Religious Charitable Society, (2 L. M. A. B. s.) .	123	90
Gardner, First Congregational Church and Society		32
" Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, .		42
Globe Village Congregational Church and Society	-	25
Grafton, Evangelical Cong. Church and Society, (3 L. M.)		00
Hardwick, Congregational Church and Society,		84
Harvard, Congregational Church and Society,		75
Leicester, First Congregational Church and Society		75
Leominster, Congregational Church and Society,	12	75
Lunenburg, Congregational Church and Society,	13	00
New Braintree, Congregational Church and Society,	26	00
North Brookfield, Congregational Church and Society,	20	38
Northbridge, "Brothers, sisters, children and friends," (1 L.		
M. A. B. S.)	30	00
Phillipston, Congregational Church and Society,	11	00
Southbridge, Congregational Church and Society,	25	50
Sturbridge, Congregational Church and Society,	23	00
Uxbridge, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, .	77	00
Westboro', Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, .	74	00
West Brookfield, Congregational Church and Society,	16	00
Whitinsville, Congregational Church and Society, (4 L. M.) .	235	
	4 057	66
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY.	\$ 957	00
Amherst, North, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	30	00
Ware, District No. 3,	2	00
	\$ 32	00
HAMPDEN COUNTY.	V 02	
HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY Mr. James Brewer, Spring	gfield, I	Tr.
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	\$ 98	07
Chicopee, Nathan Mosman, (1 L. M.)	•	00
Denetions	549	
Donations,		
On Bible account, \$252 65.	\$ 667	42

FRANKLIN COUNTY.

FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY Mr. William Elliot, Green,	held, T	۲.
Ashfield, First Parish, Ladies' Association, \$19 02; Gent.	5 05	.
do. \$12 33;	\$ 31	
Bernardston, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .		50
Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society,	12	
Conway, Congregational Church and Society,	78	
East Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society,	13	
Gill, Congregational Church and Society,	10	
Greenfield, Second Congregational Church and Society,	61	52
Leverett, Congregational Church and Society,	15	00
Montague, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.)	34	43
Northfield, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society, .	5	38
South Deerfield, Monument Church and Society,	14	00
Warwick, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society, .	7	00
West Hawley, Congregational Church and Society,	16	00
Whateley, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.)	30	00
	333	24
Deduct paid for printing,		00
•	\$ 323	24
NORFOLK COUNTY.		
Brookline, Simon S. Bucklin, (1 L. M.)	\$ 20	00
Dedham, Society of Rev. Dr. Burgess,	80	00
South, Congregational Church and Society,	11	66
Dorchester, Second Church and Society,	166	62
" Misses Baldwin,		00
East Randolph, Winthrop Church, (1 L. M.)		35
Foxboro', Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)		61
Franklin, Congregational Church and Society,		50
Medway, First Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		01
" E. F. Richardson,		00
Roxbury, Eliot Church, (on Bible account, \$15,)	115	
South Weymouth, Congregational Church and Society,		00
Walpole, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		00
valpoie, congregational charten and society, (1 st sty		
	\$ 623	91
BRISTOL COUNTY.		
Taunton, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	\$ 55	57
" Winslow Church and Society,	18	03
	\$ 73	60

PLYMOUTH COUNTY.

Abington, South, Cong. Church and Society, (of which \$3,50 are a "bequest of Emily Matthews, a Sabbath school scholar, to give the Bible to poor chil-		
dren,") (1 L. M.)	\$ 20	00
" South, Mary Whitmarsh, (1 L. M.)	20	00
Hanover, First Congregational Church and Society,	7	00
Middleboro', First Parish, (1 L. M.)	24	00
" North, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M.) .	28	04
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church and Society,	22	00
Plymouth, South Congregational Church and Society,	6	00
	\$ 127	04
BARNSTABLE COUNTY.	φ 121	04
BARNSTABLE COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY Mr. John Munroe,	T ⊷	
	17.	
On Bible account, \$87,00.	_	
Centreville, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 13	
Chatham, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		00
East Falmouth, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,)		00
" " Mr. Hatch,	2	00
	\$ 45	90
MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS.		
Campton, N. H., John Rogers,	\$ 1	00
East Woodstock, Ct., Mrs. Lucy Paine, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	
Exeter, N. H., A friend,	13	
Henniker, N. H., Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. x.).	26	
New England Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church,	322	
North Waterford, Me., W. W. Green, to send Bibles to Italy,	10	
Thetford, Vt., Lucy A. Child, (1 L. M. in part,)		00
Walpole, N. H., Simeon Perry,	300	
A friend, \$10; do. \$5;	15	
	4 700	97
COLLECTIONS.	\$ 722	21
By the Rev. E. F. Slafter, Agent of the American Bible So	ciety.	
St. Mary's Church, Boston, on Bible account, \$3,46.		
Christ Church, Boston,	\$ 5	55
Church of the Messiah, Boston,	67	40
St. James's Church, Roxbury,	84	32
St. Andrew's Church, Hanover,	UX	
St. Andrew's Unurch, Hanover,	15	
St. Paul's Church, Dedham,		00

St. Andrew's Church, Norwich, C	t.	•	•	•	•	•	\$ 3	60
St. Thomas's Church, Hanover, N	. H.	•	•	•	•	•	2	64
St. Thomas's Church, Taunton,	•	•	•	•	•	•	75	00
St. Mary's Church, Newton Lower	r Fal	ls,	•	•	•	•	33	33
St. John's Church, Jamaica Plain,		•	•	•	•	•	52	00
St. Paul's Church, Boston, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	393	00
Calvary Church, Danvers, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	4	00
Grace Church, Newton Corner,	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	25
Trinity Church, Boston, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	362	00
Emmanuel Church, Boston, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	100	00
St. John's Church, Charlestown,	•	•	•	•	•	•	37	00
Grace Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	•	50	00
St. Andrew's Church, Chelsca,	•	•	•	•	•	•	4	50
St. Paul's Church, Brookline,	•	•	•	•	•	•	125	00
						\$	1,503	61

[Other collections made by Mr. SLAFTER, in Massachusetts, have been paid through other Auxiliary Societies.]

LEGACIES.

Boston, Miss Mary P. Towns	-	•						• 2 000	00
liam Minot, Jr., Ex'rs,							•	•	
Foxboro', Miss Eunice Grove	er, by	Jam	ies Ci	apen,	Ex'r,	•	•	62	99
Northampton, Miss Betsey A	llen,	by I	loses	War	ner, 1	Ex'r,	•	30	00
Randolph, Miss Mary K. A	lden,	by E	bene	zer A	lden,	M. D	٠,		
(2 L. M.)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	40	00
							•	3 2,132	99
	_		_						
				-					
Annual subscriptions, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	\$ 654	00
Returned for books donated,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	9	00
Interest and dividends, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	1,241	50
Sales at the Depository,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	10,424	88
Amount acknowledged in the	e prec	eding	g list	8,	•	•	*	22,568	32

Pecuniary remittances and letters relating to the business of the Depository, and orders for Books, should be addressed to S. T. FARWELL, Agent, No. 15 Cornhill, Boston.



ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING

IN BOSTON,

MAY 27, 1862, BEING THEIR FIFTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON, 42 CONGRESS STREET. 1862.

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OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY FOR 1862-63.

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Nathaniel H. Emmons,
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Hon. William Phillips, 18 Rev. John Pierce, D. D 18	•	NTS. Hon. Richard Fletcher, Hon. Samuel H. Walley,	1854—59 1859						
•	,								
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CORRESPON	DING	SECRETARIES.							
Bov. Joseph Stevens Buckminster, 18 Bov. Samuel C. Thacher, 16 Bov. Charles Lowell, D. D 16	109—13 1 113—17 1	Rev. Prancis Parkman, D. D Rev. N. L. Frothingham, D. D. Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D.	1818—49 1849—53 1853						
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TI	REASUE	RERS.							
Hon. Peter O. Thacher, 18	31-19 (Henry Edwards, Esq	183549 18496# 186#						
BXECUT	IVE CO	MMITTEES. *							
Btephen Higginson, Esq 16 Bev. Francis Parkman, D.D 18 Edward Tuckerman, Esq 18 Bev. Henry Ware, Jr., D. D 16 Bev. Benjamin B. Wisner, D. D 18	309—16 1 309—15 1 315—18 1 316—30 1 318—30 1	Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D. Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D. Henry Edwards, Esq. Rev. George Richards, George R. Sampson, Esq. Albert Fearing, Esq. Rev. John O. Means, Charles Henry Parker, Esq.	1638—53 1635—19 1640—49 1849—60 1649—63 1853 1860 1 968						

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Charter of Incorporation under which we are acting, declares that this Society "is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the Sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

To the accomplishment of this purpose, we have directed our efforts during another year, inviting the aid of all friendly to the cause; and, as our means and opportunities allowed, distributing the Scriptures among the destitute.

There have been issued from the Depository, fifty-one thousand, one hundred and ten volumes; a greater number by twelve thousand than last year, and an advance of sixteen thousand upon two years ago. Of these, eleven thousand, four hundred and ninety-six were Bibles, twenty-three

thousand and eighty-eight Testaments, ten thousand, three hundred and three copies of the Testament and Psalms, twenty-eight hundred and fifty copies of the Psalms, and thirteen hundred and fifty-one copies of the Gospel of St. John.

Most of our issues have been in the English language, only fourteen hundred and thirty-six being in various foreign languages. And of the whole amount, the number of volumes circulated gratuitously has been eighteen thousand, four hundred and five, at a cost of \$3,141.

The year past, fruitful in great events to our country, has been marked, as will be seen, by unusual activity in the Bible work. When our armies began to muster at the call of the Government, a general desire was felt that all the soldiers should possess the Holy Scriptures. The camps were visited, and the men who were found destitute were furnished with some portion of the Bible, usually the New Testament and Psalms. For the convenience of the soldiers, compelled upon their marches to practice the utmost economy of space and weight, the Gospel of St. John was printed in a separate volume, and also the Book of Proverbs and of Psalms; and of these, large numbers have been circulated. In all, ninety-two hundred and twenty-six copies of the Scriptures have gone from our Depository to the soldiers. And to the sailors in our navy, twenty-two hundred copies have been distributed, of which more than one half were Bibles; fifteen hundred and fifty were given to recruits on board the receiving ship Ohio, through the labors of the Boston Young Men's Christian Association.**

Through the efforts of Bible Societies and of individuals, it is believed that all the brave men composing our armies who desire to have them, possess the Scriptures, more than half a million of copies having been appropriated to this object. Without doubt, this wide field has the usual proportion of stony ground, and of wayside, and of thorns; it has also its good ground, where a thirty, a sixty, or a hundred-fold increase gladdens the heart and rewards the toil of the sower. From our chaplains and others, we learn that the books given have been carefully preserved and extensively read. We need no witness to the fact that, having been read, they have done good; that they have preserved many from paths of evil; have increased their courage on the field of battle; and taught them how to gain the victory, in sickness and death, over the last enemy.

Besides the volumes given to the sailors in our men-of-war, twenty-nine hundred and twenty-two copies have been distributed to seamen in the merchant service. The remainder of our issues have gone to supply the ever-recurring wants of the community—to those called to battle with poverty and ignorance, and who are destitute of the opportunities of religious culture which the more favored enjoy. Here we have a permanent and

^{*} For a particular account of these labors, we refer to the letter of the Librarian of the Association, which is published in the Appendix.

most inviting field of labor. The rebellion against the Government will soon be crushed, by the blessing of God upon us, and our soldiers will return to the peaceful pursuits they have left. But the poor we shall always have with us, and whensoever we will we may do them good.

The canvass of Barnstable County, which was mentioned in our last Report as in progress, has been completed by our Colporteur, Mr. Jacob Hersey. Beyond this, it was not judged expedient to carry this form of labor during the year. Meanwhile our Secretary, the Rev. Mr. Butler, has continued his work of exploration and supervision over the whole field, preaching and attending meetings, and making collections in behalf of the cause.

The income of our Society from all sources, the past year, has been \$19,385.04. With \$3,595.54 on hand at the beginning of the year, the total available means have been \$22,980.58. The expenditures have amounted to \$20,720.42. Of the income, the donations, legacies and annual subscriptions amounted to \$8,917.36, and the sales have been \$9,230.68. There was received from dividends on stocks and interest, \$1,337.

There has been expended, for Bibles and Testaments, \$13,976.94. The expenses of the Depository, of the General and Depository Agents and Assistant, Colporteur, paper, printing, rent, &c., have been \$3,505.55. Donations to the American Bible Society, New York, were \$3,237.93.

This is a gratifying statement, but it is not so much as ought to be raised in our Commonwealth, and might be judiciously expended by us. the year the Trustees have had their attention specially directed to the importance of a more thorough and comprehensive work on the part of our Society. The American Bible Society at New York has held communications with us, by several letters and by the deputation of the Rev. Dr. Brigham and the Rev. Dr. Janes, as a special Committee of Consultation in regard to this important matter. It is hoped we shall continue in the path so wisely marked out for us in our Charter, and go vigorously forward in accomplishing the purposes which are so plainly stated therein. It surely becomes us to see that our whole Commonwealth is taken care of; and by combining the counsels and efforts of friends of the Bible in all parts of the State, we shall insure at once a deeper interest in the cause at large, and secure more liberal contributions in aid of the destitute elsewhere. In answer to such appeals from abroad as are made directly to us, and which it is most natural and easy for us to answer, much more may be done than what from the first we have been accustomed to do. And there is no limit, save our ability, to what we may do in that field which is the world, through the channel of the American Bible Society, with which, since its origin in 1816, only six years after our own, we have been affiliated.

We are happy to state that that favored Society has enjoyed a year of great prosperity. While its

receipts have slightly declined, its issues have greatly exceeded those of any previous year, amounting to one million, ninety-nine thousand, eight hundred and forty-three.

Of this large number, more than six hundred thousand have gone to the army. Their books have been sent to every camp; they have been found among the stores of the commissary and in the hands of the chaplain, to supply the inevitable waste that war occasions; with a liberal hand they have been furnished to our hospitals; and the hosts who are hastening through the Red Sea from the house of bondage, have freely received the Holy Scriptures.

The aspect of the work in foreign lands becomes every year more hopeful, and urges us to increasing efforts. With gratitude to God we record the fact that upon every continent, in greatly increasing numbers, men are found anxious to possess the Scriptures, and that the field in actual occupation covers almost the whole of the known world.

During the year, one of our Trustees, the Hon. William Appleton, has been removed by death. Through a long and eminently useful life, he was a lover and a doer of the word; and in his death, every good cause mourns the loss of a sincere friend and a munificent patron.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Fifty-third Annual Meeting of the BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS, was held in the Central Church, Winter Street, Boston, May 26, 1862; the President, Hon. SAMUEL H. Walley, in the chair.

The Minutes of the last annual meeting, and of the meetings of the Trustees during the year, were read and approved.

The Annual Report of the Treasurer was read and accepted.

The By-Laws were amended in the Fifth and Sixth Articles, so as to provide for the election of fourteen Vice Presidents; and the Eleventh Article amended by striking out the words, "each of said committees to consist of three persons."

The following Preamble and Resolutions were introduced by Hon. JACOB SLEEPER, and unanimously adopted:

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God, in his wise providence, to remove by death our associate and fellow-laborer, WILLIAM APPLETON, therefore

Resolved, That we bow with submission to His will, who doeth all things well, feeling that the removal of our friend from the scene of his earthly labors, while it involves great loss to us, is gain to him.

Resolved, That in the consecration of himself and so large an amount of wealth as he contributed during his life-time, to benevolent objects, he has left an example worthy of imitation.

Resolved, That we tender our sympathy to the family of the deceased, and rejoice that we can point them for consolation to the

teachings of that Blessed Volume which he, in common with his fellow-laborers, strove to distribute among the destitute.

A communication was received from George R. Sampson, Esq., declining a re-election to the office of Treasurer. On motion of T. R. Marvin, Esq., it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be presented to George R. Sampson, Esq., for his efficient and faithful services as Treasurer, for the past twelve years.

The Officers of the Society for the ensuing year were chosen.

At the close of the business meeting, the public Anniversary services were held.

The Scriptures were read and prayer offered, by the Rev. WILLIAM R. NICHOLSON, D. D., of Boston.

The President, in his introductory Address, spoke as follows:

No year since the existence of this nation has been more eventful than that which now closes. In none have there been more striking events to be recorded on the page of history; in none have there been more marked interpositions of the hand of If there were no other, the building of the 'Monitor,' under such adverse circumstances; her issuing forth at the moment that she did; her wonderful preservation from being overwhelmed in the ocean; her appearance after the destruction of other vessels had demonstrated that the navy of three nations would be of no avail against iron-clad steamers; and just in season to stay further havoc of our navy, and hold the 'Merrimac' itself at bay; are sufficient to convince the most skeptical —if he be not an atheist—that God did interpose, in the hour of our greatest peril, to turn the tide of battle, and save our nation from destruction. And this is only one of many marked interpositions in our behalf. But the God of Providence is also the God of Revelation; and there is no volume to which we can turn, as to the Bible, for guidance, instruction and comfort,

amid the varied perplexities and afflictions that beset our path on earth.

It is my honest conviction, that no sorrow, or calamity, or disappointment, can befall us—no uncertainty as to the path of duty can fill our minds with painful disquietude—but we may find relief and direction and instruction, suited to each case, and singularly appropriate to each necessity, in the storehouse of the Bible.

The more we study this Holy Book, the more rich and suggestive do we find its contents; and not only the thoughts, but the very words of inspiration seem to meet our exact case. The speaker has often noticed this, in years past, in his own experience, and has read well attested facts of like experience on the part of others; and never has this been more evident than during the past year.

On the morning of the anniversary of the birth-day of the Father of our Country—when our struggles and our trials were very severe, and we were striving to gather fresh strength and courage to persevere in our efforts to save the Government, by listening to the counsels of wisdom as contained in the farewell address of Washington—the speaker came to the following remarkable passage in the course of his regular morning reading:—

"Take counsel together, and it shall come to nought; speak the word, and it shall not stand: for God is with us. For the Lord spake thus to me with a strong hand, and instructed me that I should not walk in the way of this people, saying, Say ye not, A confederacy, to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid. Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread."—Isaiah viii. 10-13.

But I am only repeating what your own experience has often demonstrated to be true; and we are prepared, therefore, to value more highly than ever this blessed volume.

This anniversary week has many advantages in bringing friends together from a distance, to discourse on topics of common interest, and to cheer each other in devising plans for doing good to the souls of men. But there is one feature that commends our Association, beyond any and all others that convene

this week, and renders our meeting more akin to that we anticipate in Heaven; for all of every name in our land who call themselves Christians, prize the Bible as their guiding-star, and with us, as in Heaven, there is "no sect."

The preamble to the Act of Incorporation of this Society declares the purpose of raising a fund to be, that it may "be appropriated in procuring Bibles * * for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the Sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

In furtherance of this original design, and to increase the interest in the noble work for which this Society was formed, it has been deemed advisable to change our By-Laws, so as to enable us to elect an increased number of officers from different parts of the Commonwealth, and thus secure an active and efficient co-operation in our two-fold endeavor to place the Word of Life in the hands of every individual in our own State who is willing to receive it, and to furnish the waters of salvation "elsewhere," as our charter reads, wherever there is an open door; and having done all that counsel and labor can accomplish, by an increased and vigorous effort of the friends of the cause, in city and country—in furnishing the destitute with the Sacred Scriptures—we will then hand over whatever surplus shall have been confided to us for this special purpose, or which may remain of unexpended income at the close of the year, to the American Bible Society, to be used as they may judge best.

Two facts connected with the history of the past year ought not to be forgotten by the members of this Society. One is, the smiles of Providence upon the efforts which have been made to give the Bible to the army and navy. The Continental Congress commenced this work before a Bible Society was organized on this Continent, and now that we are struggling to save the Government which our Fathers established, it is cheering to know that the same Bible, on which their faith rested, and by which their lives were guided, is furnished to those who are fighting the battles of the Revolution over again. May this blessed volume carry light and knowledge, not only to our soldiers and sailors, but also to the prisoners of war, and show

them the error of their ways, and save their souls. Thus may we feed our enemies with the bread of life, and in return for the evils and outrages perpetrated on our people, heap coals of fire on their heads.

The other fact which claims our notice, is the demise of many whose names have been distinguished as emphatically Bible men.

The National Society has lost its revered head—the learned, enlightened and beloved Frelinghuysen, whose virtues and whose talents have alike endeared him to the good citizens of our whole country, of every name and every sect. Not to detain you by recounting the list, we must not omit to mention one of our own Board, Hon. William Appleton, endeared to all who knew him by native modest worth, as much as by the claims for gratitude which his extensive but unostentatious charities imposed. The Bible was the directory of his life. Often has the speaker heard him testify as to its precious consolation in the very heavy and peculiar trials which he had been called to endure, and which seemed, even by the intensity of their glow, to consume the dross, and make the pure gold shine with increasing lustre in his Christian life.

Friends,—let us enter upon another year with fresh zeal in our holy work, and strive, while life and strength remain, to do all in our power to give the leaves which are for the healing of the nations to every one who is willing to receive them at our hands.

Rev. John O. Means, Chairman of the Executive Committee, read the Fifty-third Annual Report of the Trustees, which was accepted and ordered to be printed.

REV. SAMUEL HARRIS, D. D., Professor in Bangor Theological Seminary, Me., delivered an Address, of which the following is an abstract:

Civilization is possible on two, and only two, political principles:—the principle of Domination, that a governing class has a right to privileges at the expense and by the service of the inferior classes, and that Government exists to protect the privi-

leges of the few, and to compel the service of the many;—and the principle of Republicanism, that all men are endowed by God with the equal right to develop and use their own faculties, subject to the divine law of right and wrong, and to possess what they thus acquire, and that Government exists to protect this right. The conflict of these principles, and the gradual advance of the latter, characterize the modern history of Christendom. This advance has created for itself the name,—Popular Progress.

The subject of the Address—The dependence of Popular Progress on the Bible, and the consequent necessity of circulating the Bible, even amid the existing convulsion.

It was premised that the work of the Society ought not to be interrupted at such a time, because the Bible alone meets the spiritual wants of man, which are always the same. Humanity is deeper and broader than the State, and its life goes on, with its alternations of action and rest, of joy and sorrow, whatever the condition of the State. Man's spiritual wants are always the same, a sinner needing redemption, weak, ignorant, dying and needing help, destined to eternity, and needing light and preparation. Whatever the state of society, there is need of the Bible to meet these ever changing wants.

But aside from this, the Bible is necessary to popular progress itself.

Historically, the modern Popular Progress originated in the Bible; it is nothing else than Protestantism in its necessary application to social and political life. The effective working peculiarity of Protestantism is the subordination of the organization to the individual, of man's institutions to man. The political application of it is, that Government exists for the good of the governed. After glancing at this historical argument, the speaker proceeded to show the dependence of popular progress on the Bible by the following considerations.

I. The very idea of human progress originated in the Bible. The Greek and Roman scarcely had the idea of a human race as an object of service; his largest object of service was his country. The conception of a divine influence penetrating humanity and lifting the whole race in a common faith to

purity and happiness, was unknown to him. But it was revealed to Abraham: "In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed." It fills the Bible. It becomes familiar wherever Christianity comes. Men recognize the obligation to give property, service, life, to elevate mankind. At a time when all nations were shut up in national exclusiveness, Judaism had the seed-thought of a universal religion, of redemption for mankind.

II. The essential principle of popular progress originated in the Bible, and derives from it its vitality and efficiency. It is the right already stated, which belongs to man as such, and is not a privilege or grant from the human sovereign.

The rights of man are involved in his personality.

His personality has significance only as man has moral relations to a personal God. Otherwise the individual is lost in the species, as is a brute or plant.

Christianity declares human rights in the command: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." No man may use another man; make him his tool. Every transaction between man and man must be equally advantageous to both parties.

Christianity shows the sacredness of this right, (1) by the law, which shows that the rights of man rest on the authority of God; (2) by the gospel, which shows the immeasurable worth of the individual man. Christ tasted death for every man. Human life was hallowed by Christ.

- III. The Bible is necessary to preserve the doctrine of human rights from misapprehension and misapplication. The two dangerous tendencies of modern progress are to disorganization and to rationalism.
- IV. The Bible discloses the divine power by which human progress is carried on. It discloses the true philosophy of history—God's grace penetrating human history. History discloses marks of God's providence effecting his gracious plan, sufficient, if collated, to make a proof of God's existence as decisive as that drawn from the starry heavens. Various exemplifications were cited. God has written his thoughts once

in the Bible; he is now writing them in the hearts of individuals and in the civilization and institutions of man. All efforts for human advancement must recognize this plan and agency of God.

Therefore, in this time of convulsion, no agency is more fundamental in true popular progress than the circulation of the Scriptures.

The speaker, in conclusion, alluded to the encouragements in our work; the opportunity to reach the contrabands; the demand for Bibles in the army; the immense annual circulation of the Bible, equaling perhaps every year the greatest circulation ever attained by any book for a single year; and expressed the confidence that the truths of the Bible would penetrate this nation's life, be the soul of its growth, and insure its true prosperity and glory.

The services were closed with the Doxology and Benediction.

CONSTITUTION.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

Sec. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Brown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

- SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal, which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.
- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.

Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

BY-LAWS.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26 the following By-Laws were adopted:—

ARTICLE I.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth it of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by volunt tribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Te of the version in common use in the churches of New I for distribution among all persons inhabiting within t and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptu who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of

ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomin Christians in the State, may become a member of this by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the ing Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons v so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasure keep a list of all such persons.

ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not I twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a m the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the R Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, fourteen Vice Presidents, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice Presidents, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice Presidents and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository.

ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository annually, four copies of the Common Bible, or the value thereof, (\$1,00,) in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

MEMBERS FOR LIFE.

Abbe, Rev. Frederick R., Abington. Abbe, Mrs. Frederick R. Aborn, John G., South Reading. *Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. Adams, Nebemiah, D. D., Besten. Adams, Stephen W., Medway. Adkins, Miss Mary J., South Deerfield. Albree, John, Besten. Albro, John A., D. D., Cambridge. Albro, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Albro, Miss Annie E. Alden, Almira S. C., Fezbere'. Alden, Russell, Campella. Alden, Miss Serah B., Randelph. Alden, Miss Susan, Aldrich, Mrs. Mary B., Westbore'. Allen, Rev. Nathaniel G., Auburndale. Allen, Richard H., Braintree. Andrews, Artemas F., Fitchburg. Andrews, C. L., Besten. Andrews, W. T. *Appleton, Samuel, Boston. *Appleton, William, Atwood, John W., North Bridgewater. Babcock, Mrs. Nancy, Besten. Babcock, Rev. William R., Jamaica Plain. Bacon, Jacob, Gloucester. Bacon, Rev. James M., Essez. Baker, Mrs. Eleanor J. W., Derchester. Baker, Francis, South Denvers. Ball, Miss Elizabeth, Concord. Barber, Martin, Sherbern. Barber, Rev. William M., South Denvers. Barker, Hiram, Brighton. Barnard, William F., Marlbore. *Barnes, William, Barnes, Zilpah, Henniker, N. H. Barrett, Nathan H., Concord. Barrett, Miss Rebecca M. Bartlett, Thomas, Boston. Bassett, Henry, Newton. Bayley, Robert, Newburgport. Beal, Alexander, Besten. Beal, Mrs. Louisa, Cohasest. Beane, Rev. Samuel, Nortex. Beebe, James M., Beston.

Beebe, Mrs. James M., Beston. Beebe, Charles E. Beebe, Francis L. Beebe, Edward P. 66 Beebe, Emily B. " Beebe, Mary L. Beecher, Rev. William H., No. Brookfield. Belknap, Miss Martha M., Framingham. Blanchard, Miss Frances C., Groton. Blood, Cyrus, Winchester. Bodwell, Rev. J. C., Framingham. Bodwell, Mrs. Catharine, *Bond, George, Boston. Bowers, Luke K. Bowers, Mrs. Cara H. Brackett, James, Quincy. Brackett, Lemuel, *Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgetown. Brant, Aaron, South Reading. Breed, Rev. William J., Southbore'. Brewer, Cyrus, Derchester. Brickett, Franklin, Haverhill. Briggs, Rev. William T., Princeton. Brigge, Mrs. Abby L. *Bromfield, Elizabeth, Beston. *Brooks, Peter C. Brooks, Peter C. Brown, Joseph, Groton. Bucklin, Simon S., Breckline. Bulkley, Mrs. Catharine F., Groton. Burge, Lorenzo, Besten. Burr, Charles C., Auburndale. Burrage, J. C., Beston. Burrill, Henry, Jr., East Abington. Butler, Rev. Daniel, Groton. Butler, Mrs. Jane D. Cady, Rev. Daniel R., West Cambridge. " Cady, Mrs. Harriet S. Capen, Mrs. Charles, Framingham. Capron, William C., Uzbridge. Carpenter, Catharine E., Fezbero'. Carpenter, Daniel, 66 Carpenter, Edson, Carter, Edward, Andover. Cary, George C., N. Bridgewater. Cary, Mrs. Mary D., Fezbero'.

Chapin, Caleb T., Whitinsvills. Chase, Ann Maria, Haverkill. Chase, Hezekiah A., Lynn. Chase, Robert, Haverkill. Child, Miss Lucy, Thatford, Vt. Childs, Carlos, Henniker, N. H. Childs, Horace, Choate, David, Selem. *Clap, James, Dorchester. Clap, Mrs. Rebecca, Besten. Clapp, James B. Clapp, John C. Clark, Elbridge, Medway. Clark, George, Concerd. Clark, James G., Andover. Clark, Rev. Joseph B., Yarmoutk. Clark, John L., Andover. Clark, Jonathan, Winchester. Clark, Oliver R. Clark, Miss Nelly, Sherbern. Clark, Rev. P. K., South Deerfield. Clark, Rufus W., D. D., Brooklyn, N. Y. Clarke, Mrs. Adeliza H., Medway. Clarke, Rev. Dorus, Waltham. Clarke, Francis, Haverhill. Clary, Mrs. S. S., Wareham. Cleaveland, Waldo, South Deerfield. Clifford, Wyatt B., Chatham. Cobb, Andrew B., Newton Corner. Cobb, Jacob, Abington. Cobb, Rev. L. H., Andover. *Cobb, Richard, *Codman, Charles R. Codman, Mrs. Catharine, " Colby, Albert, Colby, Barak, Henniker, N. H. Cole, Miss Ella A., Medway. Conn, Horace, Woburn. Cook, Asa, Newton. Coolidge, Joseph, Boston. Coolidge, Lowell, Sherbern. Copp, Mrs. Fedora F., Chelsea. Cousens, Boulah F., Newton Centre. Crafts, Mrs. Sarah P., Newton. Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Curtis, Abner, East Abington. Cushman, George H., North Bridgewater. Cutter, Stephen, Winchester. Cutter, Stephen H. Dakin, Thomas L., Sudbury. Damon, Albert P., Reading. Dana, Samuel, Besten. Dana, Charles B., *Breckline*. Dane, John H. Daniell, Mrs. Eliza B., E. Medway. Daniell, Otis, Besten. Davis, Alvah M., Heverhill. Davis, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Northboro'.

Davis, James, Boston. Davis, John, Methuen. Day, Robert L., Newton. Dickson, Oliver, Somerville. Dickson, Mrs. Sarah E. " Denham, Rev. George, Berre. Denham, Mrs. Clara D. " Dickerman, Rev. Lysander, Weymouth. Dix, Mrs. Elijah, Boston. Dix, Samuel F., Newton. Dodd, Rev. S. G., Spencer. Dodge, Rev. John, Harvard. Dodge, Mrs. Ann S. Dodge, Mrs. J. M. C., Andever. Doggett, Rev. Thomas, Greveland. Doggett, Mrs. Frances L. *Dorr, John, Besten. *Dow, Josiah, " *Dowse, Edward, Dedham. Dudley, P. W., Whitinsville. Dunham, Charles H., Winchester. Dunlap, Sumner, South Deerfield. Dunn, Edward H., Besten. Dutch, Elizabeth M. " Dyer, Rev. E. Porter, Hinghem. Eager, William, Boston. Eames, Mrs. Nancy, Sherbern. Eastburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, Boston. Eaton, Mrs. Ann E., South Reading. Eaton, Eben, Framingham. Eaton, Miss Martha W., Fitchburg. Eaton, William, Boston. Eaton, William J., Westbere'. Eddy, Joshua, East Middlebere'. *Eliot, Samuel, Besten. *Eliot, Samuel A. " *Elwell, Robert, Emerson, Jacob, Jr., Methuen. Emerson, R. V. C., Newton. Emery, Mrs. Harriet, North Weymouth. Emery, Mrs. Mary, Chetham. Everett, Edward, Boston. *Farnsworth, Mrs. Abel, Greten. Farwell, Stephen T., Cambridge. Fay, Cyrus, Westbore'. Fearing, Albert, Besten. Fearing, Mrs. Albert, " Fisher, Miss Eliza, Medway. Fitch, John A., Hopkinson. Fitz, Rev. Daniel, Ipswick. Fitz, Daniel, Jr. Fitz, Daniel F. Flanders, Joseph, Haverkill. Fletcher, Rev. James F., Denvers. Fletcher, Mrs. Lydia M. Fletcher, Mrs. L. C., Whitinsville. Fletcher, Stillman, Winshester. Flinn, Mrs. Paulona, Winehester.

Ford, Rev. George, East Falmouth. *Ford, Thomas A., Boston. Ford, Thomas A., North Bridgewater. Ford, Mrs. Eliza C. Foedick, Charles, Groten. Foedick, Frederick, Foedick, Rose, Foedick, Samuel W. " Foedick, Miss Mary, " Foster, Rev. Aaron, E. Charlemont. Foster, Miss Eliza C., Rewley. *Francie, Ebenezer, Boston. Frothingham, A. T., Cambridge. Furber, Rev. Daniel L., Newton. Furber, Mrs. Maria B. Gale, Rev. Wakefield, Rockport. *Gale, Mrs. Wakefield, Gale, Justin Edwards, Gallot, Nathan, Groton. Garrette, Rev. Edmund Y., Millbury. Garrette, Mrs. Franzenia W. Garrette, Mary Spring, •Gibbs, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Gilman, Miss Rebecca I., Bradferd. Goodell, H. Augustus, Whitinsville. Gordon, Solomon J., Boston. Gordon, Mrs. Rebecca, " Gordon, Jeannie, Gott, J. R., Rockport. *Grant, Moses, Boston. *Gray, Francis C. " *Gray, Henry, Gray, Horace, " Gray, John C. Greeley, Rev. Edward H., Methuen. Greeley, Mrs. Edward H. Green, Rev. J. S. C., Newton. Greenwood, Mrs. Sally K., Sherbern. *Grew, John, Besten. Grover, Mrs. Caroline, Feziere'. Hale, E. J. M., Haverhill. Hall, Mrs. Joseph F., Greton. *Hammatt, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Hammond, Rev. W. B., Merrisville, N. Y. Hammond, Mrs. Louise M. Hardwick, Thomas, Quincy. Hardy, Truman, Manchester. Hastings, Hollis, Franingham. *Hatch, Benjamin, East Falmouth. Hawes, Cynthia, Wrontham. Hayward, Elias, Braintres. Hayward, Paul, Ashby. Headley, Rev. P. C., Greenfield. Healy, Rev. Joseph W., Walpole. Heard, John, Ipswisk. Hebron, Miss Priscilla, Rewley. Hersey, Jacob, Festere'. Hewine, Mrs. Annette P., Fezbere'.

Hewins, Levi R., Fezdere'. *Higginson, Stephen, Jr., Besten. Hildreth, Mrs. Mary R., Groton. *Hill, Henry, Boston. Hill, Jotham, Wedurn. Hitchcock, George M., Brimfield. Holland, Miss Sarah E., Boston. Holm, J. P., Manchester. *Holmes, Abiel, D. D., Cambridge. Holmes, Miss Elizabeth A., Belvidere, Ill. Homer, Charles W., Cambridge. Hooker, George B., Skerborn. Hooper, Robert, Besten. Hoppin, Rev. James M., Salem. Hosmer, Miss Eliza, Concord. Hovey, George O., Boston. How, Frederick, Danvers. *How, James, Boston. *Howe, John, Howes, Collins, Chathem. Howard, Cary, North Bridgewater. floward, David, Hoyt, Mrs. Mariu, Framingham. Hubbard, Mrs. Charles A., Concord. Hulbert, Charles, Boston. Humphrey, Daniel, North Weymouth. *Hyslop, David, Besten. Jackman, Mrs. Susan M., Medway. Jackson, James, Beston. *Jackson, Patrick T. " Jeffries, Miss Catharine Amory, Besten. Jephson, Miss C. R., Breokline. Johnson, Mrs. Emma E., Bradford. Johnson, Peter R., Helliston. Johnson, Mrs. S. W., Farmington, N. H. Jones, Henry E., Hellisten. Joy, Mrs. Abigail, Beston. Keep, N. C., Boston. Keith, Adelbert F., Campelle. Keith, Albert, Keith, Arza B., Campello. *Keith, Charles, North Bridgewater. Keith, Ziba C., Campello. Kendall, Mrs. Abel M., Besten. Kendall, William, Whitinsville. Kendrick, John, Haverkill. Kendrick, Mrs. Lydia F., Chatham. Kerr, Robert W., Fezbere'. Kerr, Jane K. Kettelle, Jacob Q., Besten. Kimball, Benjamin, 2d, Haverkill. Kimball, David, Bradford. Kimball, Mrs. Sylvia, Grafton. Kingman, Miss Eliza, Boston. Kingman, Miss Sarah, Kittredge, Rev. Abbott E., Charlestown. *Knowles, Rev. James D., Beston. Knox, Mrs. S., Rock Island, Ill.

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Thayer, Ira, Braintree. Thayer, Mrs. Lilla, " Thayer, Rev. J. Henry, Salem. Thayer, Mrs. Martha C. Thayer, Oliver, Thayer, Mrs. Jane, Boston. Thayer, Robert H., Rezbury. Thurston, Rev. Richard B., Waltham. Tolman, Rev. Richard, Tewksbury. Tolman, Rev. Samuel H., Wilmington. Torrey, Miss Elizabeth L., South Weymouth Torrey, James, North Weymouth. Trask, Mrs. A. H., Manchester. Trowbridge, Mrs. Asa, Brighton. Tucker, Rev. Elijah W., Lebanon, Ct. Tucker, Mrs. Hannah W. Tucker, Jesse, Tucker, Nathan, Tucker, Mrs. Nathan, " Tucker, William, Dorchester. Tucker, William W., Boston. Tufts, Charles, Andover. Tuttle, Miss Sarah, Tuttle, Thomas, Littleton. Twichell, John M., Fitchburg. Tyler, Jerome W., Boston. Underhill, Rev. John W., N. Amkeret. Upton, Moses T., Salem. Vose, William H., Fitchburg. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. Walcott, William, Danvers. Wales, Erastus, East Randolph. Wales, Miss Mary Ann, Boston. Walker, John S., East Medway. Walker, Mrs. John 8. Walker, Moses, Haverhill. Walker, Robert G. " Walker, Nathaniel, Boston. *Walley, Samuel H., Beston. Walley, Samuel H. Ward, Artemas, Ward, Salem T., Winchester. Warner, John, Newton. Warren, Mrs. Diantha A., Lynn. Warren, Mrs. Maria, Grafton.

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The payment of TWENTY DOLLARS constitutes the Donor a Member for Life.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

Receipts from May 1, 1861, to May 1, 1862.

SUFFOLK COUNTY.

Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,	\$ 176	09
" Rev. Mr. Alden, Broadway,	56	61
on Bible account, \$16.		
" Rev. Dr. Stone, Park Street,	98	00
" Rev. Mr. Todd, Winter Street,	48	17
" Church Street Meth. Episcopal Church, (FOR A. B. s.)	14	00
" Hedding Methodist Episcopal Church,	12	95
" Miss Catharine Amory Jeffries, (1 L. M.)	20	00
" Charles A. Roundy,	1	00
" A poor young man, to aid in disseminating the gospel,	10	00
" A friend, \$3; do. \$2; do. \$2; do. \$1;	8	00
Chelsea, Mrs. Cynthia Powers,	2	00
	\$ 446	82
ESSEX COUNTY.		
Andover, Chapel Congregation,	\$ 24	87
" Old South Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	72	00
"Ballardvale, Congregational Church and Society,		
for soldiers in the army,	5	00
Bradford, Congregational Church and Society,	70	26
Georgetown, Congregational Church and Society,	25	40
Gloucester, Evangelical Church and Society, (3 L. M.)	81	00
Groveland, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	20	02
Haverhill, Centre Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	44	62
Ipswich, First Congregational Church and Society,	<i>5</i> 3	24
"South Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	30	00
Lawrence, Lawrence Street Church and Society,	27	30
Manchester, Society of Rev. F. V. Tenney,		
	13	85
Methuen, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	13 40	
		00
Methuen, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	40	00 08
Methuen, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.) Middleton, Congregational Church and Society,	40 15 13	00 08

Salem, Crombie Street Church, \$34 67; do. \$55; (4 L. M.)		
Rev. J. H. Thayer, \$50; do. \$25, to furnish the		
Scriptures to contrabands at Port Royal and For-	\$ 164	67
tress Monroe,	32	
"Tabernacle Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	25	
" South Church and Society,	20 34	
South Danvers, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		63
Wenham, Congregational Church and Society,		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\$ 884	57
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.		
Ashby, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 21	14
Ashland, Sabbath School, to furnish Bibles to soldiers in the arr	my, 6	00
Cambridge, East, Miss M. A. Winsor, (1 L. M.)	20	00
" Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	19	33
Cambridgeport, First Evangelical Cong. Church and Society,	70	00
Charlestown, Winthrop Church and Society, (1 L. M.),	30	00
" On Bible account, \$58 22.		
Concord, Union Bible Society, (4 L. M.)	100	00
Dunstable, Congregational Church and Society,	2	25
Framingham, Hollis Evangelical Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	22	00
Saxonville, Edwards Church and Society, .	23	13
Groton, Union Orthodox Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	34	46
Holliston, First Congregational Church and Society,	24	13
Hopkinton, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) .	20	00
Littleton, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	8	50
Lowell, Misses Emily and Elizabeth Rogers, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
Needham, Grantville, Congregational Church and Society, .	14	39
Newton, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B.	s.) 34	50
"A friend,	10	00
"West, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	40	00
" Mrs. N. G. Allen, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
" Auburndale, Congregational Church and Society, .	27	72
" A friend, (1 L. M.)	20	00
Pepperell, Congregational Church and Society,	14	75
Reading, Old South Church and Society,	16	87
Shirley, Congregational Church and Society,	6	00
Somerville, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	36	94
South Reading, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	20	24
Sudbury, Union Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	20	00
Tewksbury, Congregational Church and Society,		00
Townsend, Congregational Church and Society,	12	<i>5</i> 8
Waltham, Methodist Episcopal Church,		18
West Cambridge, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society		73
Westford, Union Congregational Church and Society,		50
Winchester, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.) .	69	33
5	\$ 863	67

WORCESTER COUNTY.

Athol, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. m. in part,)		
	\$ 17	86
Charlton, Congregational Church and Society,	14	27
Clinton, First Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,	20	44
Fitchburg, Religious Charitable Society, (4 L. M. A. B. s.) .	77	77
Grafton, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, .	30	00
Harvard, Congregational Church and Society,	33	25
Lancaster, Evan. Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	40	00
Lunenburg, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,	16	29
Millbury, Rev. E. Y. Garrette,	4	00
Northbridge, Whitinsville, Cong. Church and Society, (4 L. M.)	291	50
Phillipston, Congregational Church and Society,	8	50
Princeton, Congregational Church and Society,		54
Rutland, Congregational Church and Society,		00
Upton, Congregational Church and Society,		00
Uxbridge, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, (1 L.		
Webster, Congregational Church and Society,		64
Westboro', Evan. Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	-	18
West Boylston, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)		00
Winchendon, North, Congregational Church and Society,	_	25
Winchendon, North, Congregational Church and Society, .	29	<i></i>
•	3 722	49
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MODOEOWED COLLANDS WEEK DIDIES COCKETS	•	
WORCESTER COUNTY, WEST, BIBLE SOCIETY	•	
Um Warren Umm Ware Transmen		
Hon. WILLIAM HYDE, Ware, Treasurer.		
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 17	75
	•	7 <i>5</i>
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society,	•	00
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society,	16 14	00
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society,	16 14	00
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society,	16 14	00 00 00
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society,	16 14 15	00 00 00
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society,	16 14 15	00 00 00
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society,	16 14 15 \$ 62	00 00 00 75
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society,	16 14 15	00 00 00 75
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society,	16 14 15 \$ 62	00 00 00 75
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society,	16 14 15 \$ 62	00 00 00 75
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society,	16 14 15 \$ 62	00 00 00 75
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society,	16 14 15 \$ 62	00 00 00 75
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hardwick, Congregational Church and Society, Southbridge, Congregational Church and Society, Sturbridge, Congregational Church and Society, HAMPSHIRE COUNTY. Enfield, Benevolent Society, HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY. Mr. James Brewer, Springfield, Tr. Donations,	16 14 15 \$ 62	00 00 00 75
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hardwick, Congregational Church and Society, Southbridge, Congregational Church and Society, Sturbridge, Congregational Church and Society, HAMPSHIRE COUNTY. Enfield, Benevolent Society, HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY. Mr. James Brewer, Springfield, Tr. Donations, On Bible account, \$112 27.	16 14 15 \$ 62 \$ 90	00 00 00 75 00
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hardwick, Congregational Church and Society, Southbridge, Congregational Church and Society, Sturbridge, Congregational Church and Society, HAMPSHIRE COUNTY. Enfield, Benevolent Society, HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY. Mr. James Brewer, Springfield, Tr. Donations, On Bible account, \$112 27. Longmeadow, Legacy of Mrs. Jerusha Field,	16 14 15 \$ 62 \$ 90 \$ 450 50	00 00 75 00
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hardwick, Congregational Church and Society, Southbridge, Congregational Church and Society, Sturbridge, Congregational Church and Society, HAMPSHIRE COUNTY. Enfield, Benevolent Society, HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY. Mr. James Brewer, Springfield, Tr. Donations, On Bible account, \$112 27. Longmeadow, Legacy of Mrs. Jerusha Field, Monson, Andrew W. Porter, Esq.,	16 14 15 \$ 62 \$ 90	00 00 75 00
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hardwick, Congregational Church and Society, Southbridge, Congregational Church and Society, Sturbridge, Congregational Church and Society, HAMPSHIRE COUNTY. Enfield, Benevolent Society, HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY. Mr. James Brewer, Springfield, Tr. Donations, On Bible account, \$112 27. Longmeadow, Legacy of Mrs. Jerusha Field, Monson, Andrew W. Porter, Esq., Westfield, Students in the Normal School, to furnish Bibles	16 14 15 \$ 62 \$ 90 \$ 450 50	00 00 75 00
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hardwick, Congregational Church and Society, Southbridge, Congregational Church and Society, Sturbridge, Congregational Church and Society, HAMPSHIRE COUNTY. Enfield, Benevolent Society, HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY. Mr. James Brewer, Springfield, Tr. Donations, On Bible account, \$112 27. Longmeadow, Legacy of Mrs. Jerusha Field, Monson, Andrew W. Porter, Esq.,	16 14 15 \$ 62 \$ 90 \$ 450 50 100	00 00 75 00
Brimfield, Congregational Church and Society, Hardwick, Congregational Church and Society, Southbridge, Congregational Church and Society, Sturbridge, Congregational Church and Society, HAMPSHIRE COUNTY. Enfield, Benevolent Society, HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY. Mr. James Brewer, Springfield, Tr. Donations, On Bible account, \$112 27. Longmeadow, Legacy of Mrs. Jerusha Field, Monson, Andrew W. Porter, Esq., Westfield, Students in the Normal School, to furnish Bibles to soldiers in the army,	16 14 15 \$ 62 \$ 90 \$ 450 50 100	00 00 75 00 00 00 11

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Ashfield, 2d Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 12 35
Bernardston, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	6 00
Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,	22 00
Conway, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.)	66 60
Gill, Congregational Church and Society,	6 18
Greenfield, Congregational Church and Society,	125 50
Northfield, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society, .	4 00
Shelburne, Gentlemen's Association, \$20 88; Ladies' do. \$18	01; 38 89
South Deerfield, First Congregational Church and Society, .	13 00
Monument Church and Society,	10 00
Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M. A. B.	s.) 61 76
Warwick, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society, .	<i>5</i> 00
West Hawley, M. T. Carter,	2 00
Whately, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,)	13 42
	
	\$ 386 70
Deduct amount paid for Bible work in Franklin County and	
printing,	54 15
	\$ 332 <i>55</i>
NORFOLK COUNTY.	
Bellingham, Estate of Seneca Wight, by Rev. Dr. Ide,	\$ 10 00
Bellingham, Estate of Seneca Wight, by Rev. Dr. Ide, . Braintree, First Congregational Church and Society	\$ 10 00 21 50
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Walpole, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	\$ 12	00
Weymouth, North, Congregational Church and Society, .	20	25
" Pilgrim Church and Society,	12	74
" Landing, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L.:	c.) 31	00
	\$ 740	45
BRISTOL COUNTY.		
Marion, Congregational Church and Society,	•	12
Norton, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.	•	50
" Female Seminary, (1 L. M. in part,)		00
Raynham, Congregational Church and Society,		02
Taunton, Mrs. Sally Cook,		00
" Winslow Church and Society,	12	63
	\$ 67	27
PLYMOUTH COUNTY.		
Abington, First Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 28	42
" East, Congregational Church and Society, (1 г. м.)	24	25
Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	31	00
East Bridgewater, Congregational Church and Society,	9	33
Hingham, Congregational Church and Society,	5	00
Marshfield, First Congregational Church and Society,	10	20
Middleboro', First Congregational Church and Society,	22	60
" North, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M	.) 40	00
	3 170	80
BARNSTABLE COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.	p -10	00
Mr. John Munroe, Treasurer.		
	4 0.0	0.4
Chatham, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	\$ 26	
Falmouth, East, Congregational Church and Society,	01	50
Yarmouth, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) .	21	95 —
	\$ 48	69
MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS.		
Castine, Me., S. J. W., (for A. B. S.)	\$ 25	00
East Woodstock, Ct., Mrs. Lucy Paine, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		00
Exeter, N. H., A friend,	22	00
Henniker, N. H., Congregational Church and Society, (1 L.		
m. balance,)	16	45
New England Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church,		
for A. B. S	253	16
Portland, Me., Susan B. Thacher, (1 L. M.)	20	00
Walpole, N. H., Mr. Simon Perry,	200	00
Camp Griffin, Va., John Valentine,		75

COLLECTIONS.

By the Rev. E. F.	SLAPTER,	Agent of	the	American	Bible Society.
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Dy the Rev. E. F. SLAPTE	R,	Agent	oj	the Ame	rican	Biole	Society.	
Grace Church, Salem,	,	•	•	•	•	•	. \$ 21	00
Trinity Church, Melrose, .		•	•	•	•	•	. 7	00
St. Peter's Church, Salem, .		•	•	•	•	•	. 42	00
St. James's Church, Roxbury,		•	•	•	•	•	. 62	50
St. Andrews' Church, Hanove	r,	•	•	•	•	•	. 28	00
Christ Church, Waltham, .		•	•	•	•	•		00
Christ Church, Boston,		•	•	•	•	•	. 20	34
Grace Church, Lawrence, .	,	•	•	•	•	•	. 24	12
Christ Church, Ipswich, .	,	•	•	•	•	•	. 7	32
Emmanuel Church, Boston, .)	•	•	•	•	•	. 171	. 00
St. Paul's Church, Dedham, .		•	•	•	•	•	. 25	00
G., Newton Corner,		•	•	•	•	•	. 50	00
Calvary Church, Danvers, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 1	75
St. Mary's Church, Newton, .)	•	•	•	•	•	. 25	00
Grace Church, Newton Corner	۲,	•	•	•	•	•	. 14	29
St. John's Church, Jamaica Pl	ain	۱, .	•	•	•	•	. 68	00
St. Paul's Church, Boston, .	1	•	•	•	•	•	. 315	50
Trinity Church, Boston, .	1	•	•	•	•	•	. 518	00
St. Thomas's Church, Taunton	1,	•	•	•	•	•	. 37	00
Grace Church, Boston,		•	•	•	•	•	. 30	00
Church of the Messiah, Boston	n,	•	•	•	•	•	. 30	00
St. Paul's Church, Brookline,		•	•	•	•	•	. 117	09
							\$ 1,616	91
Other collections made by Mr. 81	. A 17 1	ree. In	Ms	seachuset	te has	re heer	•	
other Auxiliary Societies.]		,			,,	0 000	para biri	- uB 11
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Boston, Moses Grant, by Otis	Da	niell a	ınd	Nathan	iel W	alker	•	
Ex'rs,	•			•	•	•	. \$1,000	00
Newton, Mrs. Rebecca Paul, (•	•						00
Salem, Mrs. Deborah T. Frot	hir	igham	, t	y A. T	. Fro	thing	-	
ham, Ex'r,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 200	00
							\$ 1,300	00
Ammal and amindians				•			A 400	. ^^
Annual subscriptions,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. \$ 400	
Returned from books donated,				•	•			12
Interest and dividends,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 1,137	00

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. \$19,385 04

Proceeds of horse and wagon sold,

Whole amount acknowledged in the preceding lists,

Sales at Depository, .

Pecuniary remittances and letters relating to the business of the Depository, and orders for Books, should be addressed to S. T. FARWELL, Agent, No. 15 Cornhill, Boston.

APPENDIX.

Boston, May 10, 1862.

To the Massachusetts Bible Society:

Gentlemen,—I hereby acknowledge the receipt of ten hundred and ninety-three 12mo. Bibles; forty-six foreign Bibles; two hundred and eighty-one Testaments; one hundred and thirty-six Testament and Psalms; and thirty-eight foreign Testaments.

The above have been distributed on board the United States Receiving Ship Ohio, during the past twelve months, with the exception of perhaps seventy-five (English) Bibles, which I have given away at the Rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association.

During these twelve months, over thirteen thousand men have been on board of the Ohio, and drafted from there to the various naval ships which have sailed from this port. As many as eighteen hundred men have belonged to the ship at a time. We have held a daily evening prayer-meeting there for the past three years. Every man on board can attend the meeting if he will.

Our attendance varies in number from twenty to five hundred—average about one hundred. At the close of each meeting, an invitation is extended to those who do not possess a Bible, or Testament, and would use one, to come forward and give their names, and they shall be supplied. We never give to any who ask for them in private; feeling that those who are ashamed to attend a prayer-meeting, or unwilling to have their shipmates know that they want to possess a Bible, would be unwilling to have them know that they read it. We have never heard of more than eight being misused since we commenced our work there, and those were extreme cases; no more than we

could expect in any other class in society. We know what vessels these men have gone out in, and many letters have been received from those who have been converted in our meeting, and who are now laboring with good success in their respective ships.

It has been one constant revival on board the Ohio, and we know of hundreds of conversions during the past year. That these Bibles have been good seed, sown in good ground, needs but the testimony of the officers of the ships.

It encourages us in our work, in passing around the decks, to see here and there a man seated reading his Bible, a tract, or religious paper, which he or they have received from our hands. Our desire is, that we may be permitted to be the *instrument* of much more good, in this wide field of labor, among these men of the sea.

Hoping this may assure you that these books are carefully and usefully distributed, I remain, ever yours in the Word of the Lord,

L. P. ROWLAND, JR.

Librarian Boston Yo. Men's Chris. Association.

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ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUS

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING

IN BOSTON,

MAY 25, 1868, BEING THEIR FIFTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSA

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON, 42 CONGRESS STI 1863.

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OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY, 1863-64.

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Heman Lincoln,

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Theophilus R. Marvin,

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7 1	REASU	ס ק ק ק	
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	<u>į</u>	Rev. John O. Means,	1860
· ·	80-40	Charles Henry Parker, Esq.	
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ANNUAL REPORT.

In presenting their Fifty-fourth Annual Report, the Trustees would express their thanks to God for the favor shown to the Society during the year past. We gratefully record the fact, that the excitement pervading the public mind, so far from impeding our labors, has extended and given efficacy to them. Many, hitherto indifferent, have sought the teaching and comfort of the Holy Scriptures in this day of adversity. That an increased interest has been felt in our work, will appear from the following statements.

There have been issued from the Depository, during the year, a total of sixty-six thousand, one hundred and fifty-seven copies of the Bible, in whole or in parts; an excess of fifteen thousand volumes above that of last year, and twenty-seven thousand volumes more than was issued two years ago. Of the whole number, fourteen thousand, five hundred and eight were Bibles, thirty thousand, eight hundred and thirty Testaments, ten thousand, eight hundred and seventy-nine Testaments with

Psalms, and nine thousand, nine hundred and forty copies of the Book of Proverbs, of the Psalms, and of the Gospel of John. The largest proportion, of course, were in the English language—sixty-four thousand, three hundred and seventy-five; in various foreign languages, seventeen hundred and eighty-two.

The number of volumes circulated, gratuitously, has been twenty-four thousand, four hundred and ninety-five, at a cost of \$4,155.22—which is onethird more than the previous year. And it is an instructive fact, that three-quarters of our grants have been for the army and navy, there having been given to soldiers fourteen thousand, five hundred and thirty-seven, and to seamen in the merchant and naval service, four thousand, two hundred and sixty-six. The volumes given by the Society directly, however, comprise but a small part of what has gone in this way. Many soldiers were furnished, of course, by parents and friends; not a few of our towns were induced to supply the companies raised in their limits. And when this was done, the camps were visited, and the soldiers who remained destitute were furnished; so that it is believed that very few of the thousands who went to the war, during the year, were without the Word of God.

While the war continues, the demand for the Scriptures will be undiminished. Many now in the field will need to be refurnished, and new recruits will continue to claim our care.

If testimony as to the value of this work were needed, we have it in the statements of chaplains, and of all who labor in any way for the welfare of the army, as well as in the numerous declarations of the soldiers themselves. The Holy Scriptures have been read by the light of every camp-fire; they have preserved the soldier amid the corrupting influences to which he is subjected; they have comforted him in sickness, and when flesh and heart were failing, they have told him of One who is the Resurrection and the Life. Men wounded in battle, and dying before help could reach them, have been found with their Testaments open, showing that their last conscious moments had been spent in meditation on Divine Truth. When a wife has had the first intelligence of the death of a husband by the terrible shock of receiving a box containing the effects of the deceased soldier, with not a word of explanation, she has found, in the well-worn Testament, passages heavily underscored -"Woman, why weepest thou?" "Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you that God should raise the dead?"

It is often said that many of the Testaments, thus given away, are wasted. But so the summer rain is wasted which, with a divine prodigality, is sent upon the unfruitful pasture and the barren rock, as well as upon the fertile meadow.

The number of Bibles given to the needy at home does not vary much from that of past years. To mission Sunday schools there have been granted

fifteen hundred and fifty-nine copies, to city missions, eleven hundred and seventy-nine, and smaller appropriations have been made to various other objects. Through different benevolent organizations many have been furnished, and there has been much done by individual effort. We hope the time is near when the friends of truth all over our Commonwealth will ascertain, year by year, and supply the destitution of the Scriptures, as a duty they owe to God and their fellow-men.

The income of the Society the past year, from all sources, has been twenty-four thousand, nine hundred and sixty-four dollars, and forty-six cents —which is more than six thousand dollars, or one-third, greater than last year. With twenty-two hundred and sixty dollars, eighty-six cents, in the Treasury at the beginning of the year, the available means have been twenty-seven thousand, two hundred and twenty-five dollars, thirty-two cents. The amount of donations, legacies and annual subscriptions has been eleven thousand, six hundred and eighty-eight dollars, forty-seven cents. on stocks and interest, eleven hundred and thirtyfour dollars, fifty cents: sales of books, twelve thousand, one hundred and forty-one dollars, fortynine cents.

The expenditures have been:—for Bibles and Testaments, eighteen thousand, nine hundred and twelve dollars, twenty-five cents; for the Deposi-

tory, the General and Depository agents and assistant, paper, printing, rent, &c., \$3,510.12: donations to the American Bible Society, \$2,779.99.

The Rev. Mr. Butler, Secretary of the Society, has continued indefatigable in his work, and, as the result shows, with unwonted success. The Rev. Mr. Slafter has labored for a portion of the year, as usual, among the Episcopal churches, and with very gratifying results. The response to his appeals has ever been hearty and generous, and the contributions have steadily increased till they exceed this year the sum of twenty-two hundred dollars, besides collections paid by him to the American Bible Society through other auxiliaries, which is an advance of several hundred dollars upon the gifts of the previous year.

The American Bible Society, with which our own is affiliated, has enjoyed a year of great prosperity, both as to its income and its issues; its receipts have amounted to \$422,588.00, about \$184,000 being from legacies and donations. It has circulated during the year not less than one million, two hundred and fifty-nine thousand, one hundred and seventeen copies of the Scriptures. Its donations in books and money, the past year, amounted to \$138,583.96. The Society has been called to mourn the loss of its Senior Secretary, Rev. Dr. Brigham, who, for more than thirty-six years, has been connected with it, and to whose

devoted and efficient labors it has been doubtless indebted for much of its usefulness.

Simultaneously with this increased circulation of the Bible at home, the work is assuming enlarged proportions and increasing interest abroad. The power of the Holy Scriptures for good, in the present state of the world, cannot be over-estimated. Favored with the possession of them and honored as instruments for their dissemination, let us go forward in our work, encouraged by past success, and entering with new enthusiasm upon the wider harvests which await the reapers.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Fifty-fourth Annual Meeting of the BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS, was held at No. 15, Cornhill, Boston, on Monday, May 25, 1863, at 9 o'clock, A. M., the President, Hon. Samuel H. Walley, in the chair.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and approved.

The Annual Report of the Treasurer was read and accepted.

The Annual Report of the Trustees was presented and accepted; and it was

Voted, That the same be read at the public meeting this afternoon.

The Officers of the Society were elected for the ensuing year.

The Society then adjourned to attend the public services of the Fifty-fourth Anniversary, at the Central Church, Winter Street, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Scriptures were read and prayer offered, by the Rev. Calvin Lincoln, D. D., of Hingham.

The President addressed the meeting as follows:

THE Massachusetts Bible Society meets, to-day, to celebrate its Fifty-fourth Anniversary. It is a pleasing thought, that

amid our national affliction and calamity, we can find cause for gratitude and thanksgiving, in connection with this occasion. In common with the National Society, which records an advance, by the special favor of Providence, "greatly beyond that of almost any former year of its existence,"—and in sympathy with the Christian Commission, which has circulated, during the past year, three hundred and thirty-eight thousand volumes, received from the American Bible Society, in addition to fifteen thousand copies of the Bible, furnished by the British and Foreign Bible Society, with the offer of all that should be asked, for the army of the Union,—we also have made a great advance, having distributed more than fifteen thousand volumes, in addition to the number issued during the previous year.

It is worthy of remark, that by far the larger amount of gratuitous issues has been to soldiers, in our army and hospitals; and, in all our sorrow of heart, that our nation should require such severe chastisements for our sins as those which we are now suffering, at the hands of the God of nations, it is refreshing to hear the testimony of the cordial welcome which has every where awaited those who have gone, without money, and without price, to alleviate the sufferings of sick and wounded bodies; and how delightful has been their experience, in ministering also to the souls of their fellow-men—carrying to them the only balm for a sin-sick soul, and instructing them as to the only Physician who can heal them.

It is no matter of surprise to those who are interested in the distribution of the Bible, to learn how the Sacred Scriptures have been welcomed by many who, for the first time in their lives, have been made to feel the priceless value of the heavenly teachings of this blessed volume. Indeed, it only furnishes new proof of the adaptedness of God's revelation to meet the wants of man, in every extremity of anguish and suffering.

But while our hearts bleed with the recital of the privations and perils of our brave soldiers, it is truly cheering, and even affords us ground for rejoicing, on the present occasion, that amid all the evils and horrors incident to civil war, we have such abundant evidence that the Bible has been welcomed by multitudes of those afflicted and bereaved in the loss of earthly hopes and props; by the wounded on the field of battle, or lying in their tents of patient suffering; and by the sick, and even the dying: its cheering hopes and tender consolations lighting their pathway through the dark valley to the celestial city.

But not alone to such as these, have our volumes gone, or by such alone met with a hearty welcome. On the ship's deck and in the forecastle—on the tented field, during the long weeks of suspense in the intervals of drill and preparation—among men not knowing how soon, or how suddenly, their patriotism and bravery may be put to a fearful test, and they be called to meet death at the cannon's mouth, or in the deadly charge,—it has been the grateful employment of those who have received Bibles at your hands, or (through your funds) of the National Society, to scatter these healing leaves, and in this sacred work to meet a cordial welcome; and to find that nowhere else is the blessed volume more faithfully or more reverently heeded, and no book more sought for, or more highly prized.

Let us be thankful for the privilege of possessing the Holy Bible, and duly appreciate the responsibility thus devolved upon us. Let us conform our lives, day by day, more perfectly in accordance with its precepts, and in closer imitation of our great Exemplar. And while expressing our satisfaction at what has been done during the past year, in making the contents of the Book of Life known to our fellow-men around us, let us, one and all, resolve to redouble our efforts for time to come, and strive to learn the lesson of making sacrifices for the good of others. More than this, let us do all in our power to give these waters of salvation to every thirsty soul—of our Commonwealth, of our beloved land, aye, of all lands—and thus manifest our gratitude for mercies received, by freely imparting of our abundance to bless those who now lack what we enjoy.

The Fifty-fourth Annual Report of the Trustees was read by Rev. John O. Means, Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Rev. WILLIAM J. R. TAYLOR, D. D., Corresponding Secretary of the American Bible Society, was then introduced, and spoke as follows:

Mr. President and Christian Friends:

I come to bear you the greetings of the American Bible Society, upon this celebration of your Anniversary. I hardly know, Sir, whether to call it "the parent Society," for yours is some years older than the National organization; but having thrown your lot in with us as an auxiliary, we have felt deeply interested in your career.

The Report which has been read this afternoon is gratifying. Some people seem to think that the system of Auxiliary Societies is a failure; that there ought to be a change; that there might be some different arrangement by which the Scriptures could be as largely circulated; but I take it, Sir, that there is something more than a mere commercial transaction, or the mere distribution of books, connected with an organization like this. There are some 1,750 auxiliaries of the American Bible Society scattered throughout the land. Every one of these is a centre of Bible interest and power where Christians are working; where pastors concentrate their influence; where the hearts of those who are engaged in the work are glowing with fervent heat; where God oftentimes pours out his Spirit, and makes them fountains of ceaseless influences to the regions in which they are situated. Sir, if we were to strike down this auxiliary system from this time, we should lose very much of that Christian power which has made our land what it is. We need a centralizing power, and then we need these smaller organizations all over the land, in order to give efficiency to that central They are related to each other very much as, in our system of government, our town and county organizations are related to the general administration.

Mr. President, Massachusetts—through her Bible Society and her Missionary Society—has had an honorable history in connection with this work. Half a century ago, Mr. Samuel J. Mills,—that man of precious memory,—in company with the Rev. Mr. Schermerhorn, (a minister of the Reformed Dutch

church, with which I am directly connected,) were sent out by the Massachusetts Missionary Society, (bearing commissions, also, from various Bible Societies in this State and Connecticut,) for the exploration of the West and Southwest. They returned, and the next year Mr. Mills went out again, with the Rev. Daniel Smith. In these two years, these brethren traversed the valley of the Ohio and the Mississippi, from Cincinnati to the Gulf, from the mountains to St. Louis. They organized the Ohio Bible Society at Marietta; the Mississippi Bible Society at Natchez; and the Louisiana Bible Society at New Orleans. That whole region was then very sparsely populated, and there was a fearful famine of the Word of God. It is narrated in the reports of these gentlemen, that at Kaskaskia, the capital of Illinois Territory, Governor Edwards said he did not believe that five copies of the Word of God could be found in that place. In the State of Louisiana, the Roman Catholic Bishop of the diocese said he did not suppose that among all his people ten copies of the Bible could be found. When the territory of Louisiana passed from the hands of the French to our own Government, it was with difficulty that even one copy of the Latin Vulgate could be found with which to administer the oath of office to the new American Governor. Now, Sir, what a difference! All through that land, previous to the rebellion, you could find, in almost every county and township, whether of the West or Southwest, organized Bible Societies; and even to-day, some of those organizations which were put in motion half a century ago by these faithful men, are continuing their work. So, Sir, the seed that is sown quietly and humbly, God will take care of. 'It shall not return unto him void, but it shall accomplish the purpose whereunto he sent it.'

Mr. President, the very best part of any man or any organization is that which bears most clearly the stamp of God upon it; that which is most providential, that which is most thoroughly connected with His grace. Now, Sir, in the history of this Bible movement in our land, and especially in the history of the American Bible Society, I think we can trace a long line of particular providences, wonderfully given and sustained. It was no light thing in the workings of God, that before the

amoke of the battles of the last war had fairly passed from off our land, this American Bible Society was formed, and in her robes of purity was sent trailing over the land that had been soaked with the blood of our citizens and of our enemies. From that day to this, what has been her history? Look at the men whom God raised up to form this Society! Trace the illustrious line of her Presidents! The venerable Boudinot, of New Jersey; the matchless jurist, John Jay, the first Chief-Justice of the United States; the revolutionary veteran, Colonel Varrick, of New York; his successor, the venerable John Cotton Smith, of Connecticut; and then, Sir, that man of lovely Christian spirit, type of all that is noble and beautiful in refined human character, the eloquent and sainted Frelinghuysen. I speak not, Sir, of the venerable man who to-day fills Mr. Frelinghuysen's place, except to say that he is worthy of the position that he holds. And then, Sir, if you look over the long line of Managers of that institution, you see men holding the first positions in the State, in mercantile life and in the various professions. God has honored that Society by giving it the most distinguished lights of the Christianity of our generation; and, Sir, he has honored it in another line—in the work that has been accomplished. That work began when they had no Bible House, no Bibles, no Testaments, no funds in hand—nothing but the simple organization, formed in the spirit of faith and of love to the souls of men. But they cast themselves upon the providence and the grace of God, and he honored that faith, until now the "little one" has "become (more than) a thousand."

Mr. President, the present aspects of the work of the American Bible Society are wonderful. It might have been supposed that the outbreak of the war would paralyze this organization of Christian usefulness; instead of that, it has put new life into it. It might have been supposed that its treasury would have been depleted; instead of that, at our recent anniversary, we reported the largest sum ever received in any one year (excepting two) of the forty-seven of the history of the Society. The Southern auxiliaries have been cut off, but, Sir, we have found more work than ever to do among the men of the North. This great army distribution is in reality a part of our domestic

work. The men whom it reaches are in different situations, in different localities, in different circumstances; but, Sir, they are reached, and perhaps thousands of them more effectively than they could have been reached in their distant homes upon the mountains and the prairies, or among the ravines and the forests. There is many a man now in possession of the Word of God, received at the hands of our distributors, or from your own bounty, who probably would not have had it but for these agencies.

I wish to speak to you this afternoon, Christian friends, for a little while, in regard to some features of this work. Since the, commencement of the war, more than two million and a quarter of volumes (2,352,959) have been issued from the Depository of the Society, a very large proportion of which have gone into the army and navy. Of this large number, the auxiliary societies of the country have purchased and have given away about a million; many have been donated by private beneficence. The National Society, since the first day of February of this year, has granted 351,047 volumes, chiefly Testaments. have in addition to this, or covering this, made provision for the supply, in all, of about 800,000 volumes, as they shall be called for; about 300,000 of these have already been distributed. venture to say, that in the history of Bible organizations, either in this country or in the old world, there has never been any thing comparable to this within the same period of time. stands out as a fact in our history, telling these Christian friends what work we are doing in their name and at their behest, with the funds they have put into our hands. And, Sir, I am now reminded of another fact, which indicates the trust that has been reposed in this Society since its organization; namely, that from its commencement, there has been poured into its treasury, by contributions and bequests and sales, a sum of over eight millions, every dollar of which has been carefully husbanded and expended in this work. It is a tribute which has been paid to Christian integrity, to Christian enterprise, the demands of God and Christ, and of a world lying in wickedness—demands that are laid upon no unwilling hearts.

Mr. President, I hope that the brother whose name you men-

tioned a few moments ago, [Rev. Mr. Mingens,] and who has had such living experience among the troops, will be here this afternoon, to give some personal testimonies of his own; but you will allow me to say a few words in regard to this work. At first, it was not well systematized, because it was all new to us; but within the past year, it has been reduced to a system which combines facility of transportation, rapidity of distribution, care for the property of the Society, and responsibility for the work that is done; and brings its distributors into personal contact with all our myriads of soldiers. It is grateful, Sir, in this place, to pay a willing tribute to the labors of the Christian Commission, of which you have well spoken. Sir, we have come to regard that body as raised up by God to do a great work. It was at first a little thought which he put into the mind of some warm-hearted Christian man, and it has grown to this great organization — having employed over 500 volunteer agents and delegates in its work, in the various armies, on the battle-fields, and in the hospitals - having the facility of free transportation over half the railroad lines of the United States, and half-rates over the rest of the lines—having also the free use of twenty-five thousand miles of telegraph wire, so that their requisitions may flash from one end of the land to the other with the speed of the lightning, in order that suffering, wounded and dying men may obtain succor for their bodies and for their souls.

I will tell you a little of what this Commission has been doing for us — for I regard them very much as an auxiliary of the Bible Society. They canvassed the whole of Gen. Hooker's army, between the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. Thirty delegates were employed for six weeks. They canvassed every regiment and battery in that army; and when they completed their work, there was scarcely a soldier who could say he was without the Word of God, except it was by his own choice. Notwithstanding all that had been done in giving the Scriptures to these men, by local societies and individuals, before they left for the field, 35,000 were distributed in that army, to those who actually needed them. The same systematic distribution is now going on in the army of Gen. Rosecrans, in that of Gen.

Burnside, and in the victorious army of Gen. Grant. The destitution in those Western and South-western armies has been Some of the letters we received were harrowing. I have in my pocket now a letter from Rev. Mr. Smith, who is the Superintendent of the Christian Commission in Gen. Rosecrans' army, which tells me of a sergeant who had a single Bible, which had been so worn in use that the print was almost rubbed from its pages. In the hospital this Bible was read by the men in turn, and oftentimes there would be, in a single day, seven or eight whose names were down upon the list, waiting to get the use of it. Similar cases of destitution have occurred in all those armies. The reason of the greater destitution at the West is evident. Almost all these soldiers went from portions of the country where the system of Bible Societies was not so thoroughly organized, and where they had not the means at command of furnishing the people. Many of these regiments went swiftly to the field after their organization — there was no time to supply them; and all we could do was to endeavor to follow them to the very battle-fields and hospitals.

I think, Sir, that with this testimony, this Christian audience will feel more encouraged to help, not merely the Bible Society, but the Christian Commission. They are the most efficient auxiliary in this work of distribution in the field. That is their distinctive province, and as an agency in the field, there is nothing like it. They have established agents at Newbern, at Port Royal, at New Orleans, at Fortress Monroe, —in the great armies, in the small divisions. And these men have worked with a will, with a heart: and not less with their hands. For it has been a toilsome work. If any man thinks there is any romance about it, let him try it; move on with the advancing armies, endure all the discomforts of the field, and work amid the sufferings and sorrows of those who are sick and wounded. The service may be hard to the flesh, but it is joyful to the spirit, because it is blessed of God and blessed of man.

I have not time to dwell on all the features of this work as I would like. There is one part of it, of which, perhaps, this audience would like to hear something more than they have

seen stated in the papers — I mean, that which relates to Southern distribution. Mr. President, we have sent nearly 30,000 volumes from our Depository to Richmond. You may have seen some statements copied into Northern presses from a malignant Southern print, but I can assure you, Christian friends, that those statements do not echo the sentiments of the men who at Richmond have received these books from us, and distribute them there. Letters have been received from officers of the Virginia Bible Society, expressing thankfulness for what we have done, and their readiness to receive all we will send them, and to put them speedily to the best possible use. own Government affords every facility, both civil and military, for the operations of the Society, and the Confederate Government also facilitates this movement. Thus there are to-day, many copies of the Scriptures - chiefly Testaments - doing their work, and bearing their testimonies of Christian love to those who are in arms against us, and who possibly had thought there was no Christian heart left in the North. And, O, Sir, may not this be one way in which we may "heap coals of fire upon their heads," waiting our reward from Him who never lets his Word fall to the ground?

There has been also a distribution to Southerners in another way: I mean, to the rebel prisoners who have been captured by our forces. Here and there you might find a man indisposed to receive the Word at the hands of these distributors. of them have been ugly in disposition and fierce in speech. One poor fellow, when kindly accosted by a distributor, said to him -" No, Sir, I believe in Southern rights, Southern institutions, Southern principles, a Southern government, a Southern church, a Southern Bible, and a Southern God;" and he would not have a Testament from Northern hands. But where there has been one such madman as that, there have been ten thousand others, with outstretched hands, who have gladly received the Word from our agents. I have a letter in my pocket from the Rev. Mr. Talbot, pastor of the Presbyterian church in Columbus, Ky.,—a noble Union man, who stood at his post in his pulpit, and in his place as a citizen, faithful to the flag, even when the rebel army, under General Polk, held Columbus, and was pro-

tected by that officer in his position. He received a case of Scriptures from us, and took a portion of its contents to the prisoners who were confined under the orders of our authorities there. They were carried up in baskets, by contrabands, with the permission of our military commander. Gathering the soldiers together, he told them the object for which he had come, and then how the American Bible Society had been making this provision for them. And what do you think was the response, Sir? Some of those men burst out, saying, "That's noble — noble — in the American Bible Society!" Then he began to distribute the volumes. The men crowded around him, and when they had received the books, the crowd bore him to the inner prison, where men were sitting in chains, in order that they, too, might have the Word of God. He had not enough to supply them, and was obliged to promise the men that he would come back and give each of them a copy. There was no reviling there, Sir.

There is a principle underlying all this work, which we, who believe in the wisdom, grace and power of the Word of God, must never lose sight of; and that is this: We must treat these men, enemies as they are, as men. He must be an alien from all human sympathy who has not some soft spot in his heart that can be reached by the appeal of Christian generosity. In one of the hospitals at Murfreesboro', after that terrific battle, a clergyman of Philadelphia — one of my own friends was passing, in the service of the Christian Commission, through the wards, and talking to one and another, and he was called back by a young rebel prisoner, who lay there suffering from fearful wounds, and as he came to him, he said-" What do you want?" "O, Sir," said he, "I heard you talking to this man alongside of me about Jesus; won't you talk to me about Jesus!" He sat beside him and did talk to him about Jesus. He found that he was a sinner seeking the Saviour, and that he had caught some glimpses of his face. He talked to him of father and mother — the far-away Christian parents who would be bemoaning his fate; and then this poor soldier turned to him, and, looking him full in the eyes, said, "O, Sir, do you think Jesus would have any thing to do with such a

rebel as I am?" We know what the answer of a Christian minister would be to such a question as that. He sat with him, amouthed his brow, ministered to his wants, prayed with him, and prepared his passage to the tomb.

Let me illustrate it in another way, Sir. Our brother, Mr. Mingens, — who I hope will come here to tell his own story, mentioned an incident to me which I will venture to repeat for fear he will forget it, if he does come; for it illustrates the same principle. After one of the battles on the Peninsula, a chaplain accosted a stalwart and noble looking Louisianian, who had been captured, and said to him, "Where are you from, Sir?" "I am from Louisiana, Sir." Shaking his fist in his face, the chaplain said, "You are a rebel, are you? How dare you lift your hand against this Government?" The man's soul began to swell within him; but he controlled his spirit, and said, "Because I thought I was right, Sir." The next salutation of the chaplain was, "You ought to be hung;" and the appeal was made by him to Mr. Mingens, who was standing by, whether he was not right. "No, Sir," said Mr. Mingens, "he is a man, and has the feelings of a man, and you are bound to respect them." The chaplain and my brother passed on; but after a little while, he thought he would go back to this man. He saw him lying there in his wounds, came to him after an hour, and said, "I think you said you were from Louisiana?" "Yes, Sir." "I suppose you chafe under this?" "Yes, it is something new to me." "Well," said he, "have you a mother, Sir?" "Yes, Sir." "I suppose you often think of your mother?" "O, yes, Sir," said he, "often." And then the question, afterwards—"Do you ever think of God?" "Yes, Sir," said he, "I often think of Him - often think of Him;" and then he began to pour out his heart to my brother. He stopped with him and talked with him. He gave him a Testament, and tracts, and read the Word of God to him. his heart, and the man begged him to come again and see him; and as he was going away, he said, "God bless any man that has got a heart like you."

Now, Sir, there is just the difference. You must treat these men, you must treat all men, as men, realizing that they have

hearts to feel, even if they are mistaken, even though they may be malignant in their disposition.

I have mentioned this incident for another reason—because it bears directly upon this aspect of our work. Mr. President, the passions which have been generated by this civil strife will never be allayed by the sword that wins the victory. The bitter, malignant, soul-searching, heart-trying, vindictive spirit, that has reigned throughout that whole Southern region — how shall it be reached? What human wizard possesses the potent spell by which to allay it? What proclamation from the White House at Washington will bring it low? Sir, when the victory of arms is accomplished, the victory of love must follow, — the victory of the Word of God, the victory of Christianity; and I have shown you, in this very incident, how rebellious hearts can be reached, and men who, but a little while before, were bitterly fighting us to the very death, can be brought to tears, to fellowship, to thankfulness, and outbursts of Christian and manly joy. O, Sir, there is a spirit in that Book of ours which is all alive with the best interests of humanity, and the best blessings of Let us breathe that spirit, and we shall make its influence felt all abroad, and men shall not be able "to resist the wisdom" with which these Bible-bearers speak and act.

Mr. President, in all these movements towards our enemies, I desire that it shall be distinctly understood that the American Bible Society has simply followed out the provisions of its charter. We have acted upon the principle that we are a national and catholic institution. We have never, Sir, put a line upon our books, we have never done an act, which will show that we have considered this rebellion as anything more than a temporary barrier to the accomplishment of one great work as the American Bible Society. Just as soon as the rebels have been driven out of any portion of the Southern States, which they have occupied by their arms, we have appeared among the people by our agents, and our distributors. Missouri, Western Kentucky, Eastern Kentucky, that whole Border-State region, will be occupied just as fast as God gives us open doors and the means for entering in; and as these great armies move, we expect to follow up their marches, and to plant the standard of Word of God, wherever we can get a foothold. Sir, we cling to this double character—American and Christian, National and Catholic. The flag of the Union floats from the top of our great Bible House; the holy Word of God comes out from its depositories; and if the nation is ever to be restored to unity and peace, if we are to have a brotherhood again, as well as one Government, it must be by the fusing influence of the Omnipotent Word of God.

Now, Sir, let me say a few words in regard to the foreign work of the Society. In the wonder-working providence of God, this work has not decreased, but has grown upon our hands during these years of war. Some of the developments are remarkable. I can only refer to two or three. Here are some facts which Christians may take to their own hearts, for they are full of inspiration.

In the city of Florence, where the Madiai were imprisoned for reading the Word of God, confined in loathsome dungeons, man and wife separated for so long a time, the President of the Waldensian Theological Seminary, Rev. Dr. Revel, (who visited this country some years ago,) is, I suppose, at this very hour, sitting at his table, revising about the last proof-sheets of Diodati's translation of the Italian Bible—the first complete Protestant edition of the Scriptures ever printed upon the shores of Italy. The ducal tyrant has been dethroned and sent adrift, to reap the reward of his persecutions; and the persecuted Waldenses have come from their mountain homes to give the Bible to free Italy. Even in Greece, so long groaning under the curse of tyranny, we have word of new openings, new opportunities, and we may press in there, too. It shall not always be true that the Cross shall be "to the Greeks foolishness." but even on that Mars' Hill, where the Apostle preached Jesus and the Resurrection to noble Athenians, shall this Gospel be proclaimed by the disciples of Jesus, in the spirit of that Apostle, who went disheartened away from the city of that classic idolatry.

Again, Sir, look at the Turkish Empire! The old false prophet stands crippled; his robe torn to tatters; a sick man

yet, as he was during the Russian war, and destined to die. We know that there has never been a fiercer persecution of the Word of God and the servants of God than by those who followed the Prophet and the Koran with the sword and with the torch; but there, Sir, what do we see to-day? Dr. Goodell has finished his Armeno-Turkish version of the Scriptures—the result of thirty years of toil; Dr. Schauffler has just finished a version of the pure Turkish Scriptures; Dr. Riggs is proceeding with his translation of the Bulgarian Bible; and when you go further down the eastern coast of the Mediterranean, at the city of Beirut, Dr. Van Dyck is engaged in translation which is destined to give the Bible to a hundred and twenty millions of people who speak that living language to-day.

Sir, with the Bible at work among all these peoples and tribes and languages and tongues, in the domain of the Mussulman, undisturbed under the sheltering providence of God, and by virtue of the protection of the Ottoman Porte, (under the constraint of Christian Powers,) what likelihood is there that the system of the false prophet can long endure?

I might take you to other points. In China, in the course of fifty years, there have been five separate translations of the Scriptures—as many as were made of the English Scriptures in the space of eighty years after their first translation into our tongue. The last of these translations, said to be the most exact, is that of Drs. Bridgman and Culbertson—God's heroes—who finished their work, laid aside their armor, and went to be enthroned with Christ.

Mr. President, this work cannot cease. All Spanish America is beginning to open her doors for the Word of God, and it is the intention of the Managers of the American Bible Society, just as rapidly as they can, to occupy every available point in South America, in Central America, — where we have already an agent, — and in Mexico, where we have another. We received the most astounding intelligence the other day from Mexico, which was, that the existing Government of the Republic had ordered the sale of between eighty and ninety Roman

Catholic churches, convents and monasteries, in the city of Puebla, and that Protestants would be permitted to hold services in any one of those churches that they pleased. How long, Sir, can priestcraft hold its power amid such upturnings as these?

. Mr. President, I must not take the time that belongs to others — perhaps I have already spoken too long; but let me close with a few words, again, in reference to the distribution in the army, which is the subject which most of all touches our hearts. O, Sir, what a history multitudes of these precious volumes have already made for themselves! If we could gather them, and put them away in our Bible Houses, what should we read? Here was one, the gift of a mother to her heroic son, leaving home perhaps forever. There is another that bears a sister's name. This one pillowed the dying head of some wounded soldier. That one saved the life of the man who carried it into battle. Here is one, which a wife sewed in the pocket of her husband, who was reluctant to take a Bible with him. He bore it away to the battle-field, and the bullet that would have struck his heart entered the Word of God, and stopped at the words—"But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy;" and then, after that Bible had saved the man's mortal life, better still, it was the precious means of saving his immortal life. That Bible had a history. given to his wife when she was a girl in the Sabbath school, by her teacher, who had gone to glory; and so it went on from one to another, doing its immortal work. Here is another, borne by a soldier to the battle-field, and pierced clear through by the fatal bullet. It struck the vitals of the man, and laid him low in an instant; and the last words through which the bullet passed were, "Behold, I come quickly!" Here is another, Sir, which comforted a poor, dying soldier upon the field of Antietam, who had crawled away into the bushes, where he lay in his wounds and sufferings, until the death agony, - five days and a half, - without seeing the face of man; no bread to eat, no water to drink; nothing to comfort him during those long hours of weakness and pain but this little Testament which was

in his pocket, upon the open pages of which he closed his dying eyes, drawing consolation from it even to the last!

These are but specimens of the incidents in the history of the volumes that go forth through our instrumentality. Dear, Christian friends, who would withhold them from the dying hero or the dying enemy, from the Unionist or the rebel, from any poor, miserable sinner, or any suffering believer, who stands just on the verge of another world, hungering for the bread of life and thirsting for the water of life? At the battlefield of Fair Oaks, in a perilous moment, when a division was giving way before the foe, one of the noblest of our Generals lost his arm by a cannon shot. Undaunted, he rode directly up to his men, lifted the bleeding and mangled limb, said not a single word, but just looked at them. Rendered furious by the injury done to their beloved leader, with a shout and a bound, with charged bayonets they rushed upon the enemy and put him to flight. Sir, that was one of our Christian heroes. Not nobler could he be, did "the blood of all the Howards" run through his veins, as the blood of our American Howards does. O, Sir, it is in that spirit of blended Christianity and heroism, undaunted amid the terrors of the war, under the reign of the principle of duty, with the love of God in the heart, and the love of country nerving to noblest exertions, that this struggle must be carried out; in this spirit our great Christian constituency must stand up for the flag, for the Country, for the Church, and for the Word of God. I know, Sir, that this is no vain appeal to those who have so many interests represented on these very battle-fields at this moment. God give us grace to know the "day of our visitation!"

Rev. L. D. Barrows, D. D., of Chelsea, Mass., delivered the closing address, in the following words:

It is too late, Ladies and Gentlemen, for me to presume to inflict on you a set address. I will not do it. I will only ask your attention to a few brief remarks—meaning precisely what I say.

After the extended and detailed account we have had of the operations of this Society and of the American Bible Society, nothing further, certainly, is needed in that direction; and perhaps we cannot improve more profitably the moment that is left us, than in turning back and looking down for the first principles that underlie this great Bible movement.

It is a very noticeable and significant fact, that the best minds and the best hearts in the whole civilized world are fixed, intensely fixed. — on giving this Book of God to everybody. Why is it? Why all this movement, the details of which we have been interested in listening to here? Is it simply to give a good book to the world? No, Sir; not simply because this is a good book, useful and pleasant to read; but there are other reasons, deeper, it strikes us, than the populace are accustomed to consider. This is a strange book, this Bible; a glorious book; and more so, we repeat, than most people are accustomed to consider. The oldest book in the world, and yet the freshest and the most vigorous. The book which is the most read of any in the world, and yet the most neglected. The book which is the most obeyed of any, and yet the most confronted. It is the book that carries more light and more comfort to human hearts than any other book, and it has more and truer friends than any other book in the world -- friends who, if necessary, would go with it to the flames: - and, at the same time, it has more and bitterer enemies than any other book, who would gladly carry it to the flames. Why should it not be so? The book itself makes that impression; for it has poured such light on human minds, as makes all other light darkness, and carried such comfort to human hearts, as makes all other comfort sadness; and it arraigns and condemns more trembling culprits than all other books together; - for this Bible of ours not only assails all the gods of the Pantheon, but the whole race of false gods, whether in the ancient Grove and Lyceum, or the modern schools of Deism. Pantheism and Materialism; and, what is more, it has confronted all vile pasmone, all unsanctified hearts, and raised a great storm of wrath among men, who seem to feel that it has come to torment them

before their time. These are facts; such facts, well considered, as will perhaps lead to profitable utterances and thought in reference to the great Bible movement.

Now, Sir, we hear of its distribution everywhere; we hear of these millions thus invested; we hear of the millions of copies that are scattered abroad everywhere—and what for? What do we expect in return? What are the results that we anticipate? I say again, let us look down for a moment, and see if we cannot reach some first principles here, that we shall find underlying, giving light, and infusing spirit and energy,—persistent energy,—into this Bible movement.

Now, all these reading, scholarly men and women have, from their youth, never ceased to admire the enthusiasm of that old mathematician of Syracuse, when he said to King Hiero, "Give me a place whereon to stand, and a fulcrum for my lever, and I will move the world." We admire such enthusiasm, if not such logic; and when the Christian world reaches a similar enthusiasm in the study and circulation of the Scriptures, there will be found in them the "place whereon to stand," as well as the "lever" with which to raise this moral world from earth to heaven. It is a place whereon to stand. Luther, when he had drawn his doctrines from that book, in spite of Popes and Cardinals, said more than he supposed, himself, we think, when he said—"Here I STAND."

Now, Sir, here is the FOUNDATION of everything that is noble and useful for man. Here is the foundation of character; CHARACTER—that which we say makes gold and silver trash, when compared with it. The integrity, the justice, the humanity—the large and gushing humanity—of the noble and well-balanced character, are based only here, on the Book of God; and it is the design of the devil, to undertake an imitation of the Christian graces by putting them on for adornments of our poor fallen nature. It is only a satanic cheat. The Scriptures teach us that these graces must have root, or they "wither away;" and that root is in the heart. From the heart proceed the issues of life. The Bible aims at the heart, and does not recommend the adornment of our corrupt natures by the adaptation and putting on of these graces. They must be inwrought. The Scriptures

do not propose to "gather figs from thistles," nor to build palaces on sand; but they teach us to dig deep, and lay our foundations of character clear down on the basis of our moral nature, and from the heart to love and serve God. The character that is built on the teachings of the Scriptures is symmetrical, beautiful, strong, well-proportioned, useful; and no other character is or can be. Character is invaluable. How we In the family, how proud the father and mother of the son or daughter who bears a good character! prize it in the church — the intelligent, pious, vigorous church! How we prize character in the nation, when, as a nation, we find it intelligent, moral, religious and strong! Such character! —underneath it is the Word of the Lord; that is the foundation on which we can build, and the only foundation on which we can build safely. Men love to build on gold and silver and precious stones; but the fire tries every man's work, and no foundation stands other than that which is laid in God's Word, on which we build.

Here, too, is where we stand. Here is the basis of our duty — all our duty. It is a cardinal principle with you, Sir, in these Bible Societies, that the Bible is the only sufficient rule of our faith and practice. It is the only book of duty for man, and the only voice teaching duty that man has ever followed, or ever can follow with safety. Men have struggled and studied to find out duty without this Guide; but he who is familiar with the history of our fallen race knows how fruitless and bootless have been the efforts to find out duty, until it has been read in that book. A heathen philosopher said, long ago, "Those things should be done that are pleasing to the gods; but how shall we know what those things are, unless the gods, or some one sent by them, tell us?" There is the difficulty in which the world has been involved, plainly and expressly told. Without the Word of the Lord, there has been no guiding light of duty that has ever been available for man, only to lead him into darkness. There has been no other voice of authority teaching on the subject of duty. The great and good Socrates died in doubt upon that point, for he said, just before his death, "Whether I have pleased God or not, I cannot tell; but this I

know, I have endeavored to please him, and I hope that the endeavor at least may be acceptable to him." Poor Socrates! Had he seen the light of the Holy Scriptures, he would have known that when men "endeavor" to please God, they do please him. They cannot fail, for on that very endeavor, God has set the seal of his approbation; but Socrates did not know that. Plato and Cicero wrote on the topics of the soul, the future of man, and a Supreme Being, and when they had finished, they said—"On these subjects, all is obscurity, and nothing can be known beyond a probability." No voice touching man's duty, until we open this book; and then we know our duty to ourselves, to our God, to the family, to the community, the nation and the world! Men never found it out until they reached it here.

Here, then, is where we stand to teach our whole duty—where we stand to learn it ourselves—and we can learn it where else but here.

Where else, let me ask, have we ever been able to find a fountain of information touching God and the future? How men have struggled in their bewilderment, and tried to find out something about the great and mighty Being who made the world, and how they have confessedly failed in these efforts, is known to all these reading gentlemen and ladies here to-day. Men have studied to find out God in nature, in transpiring events, or by some process of their own reason; but when they have gone all lengths in that direction, they have been obliged to say at last—

- "Part of his name divinely stands,
 On all his creatures writ;
 They show the labor of his hands,
 Or impress of his feet.
- "But when we view his strange designs,
 To save rebellious worms,
 Where vengeance and compassion join,
 In their divinest forms:
- "Here the whole Deity is known,
 Nor dares a creature guess
 Which of the glories brighter shone,
 The justice or the grace."

As they go back to the Bible, they find out the whole of the divine character; parts of it only they have discovered in his works; and thus they have confessed that we are dependent,—wholly, totally, absolutely dependent,—upon this book, his precious book, for all we know of God, the great Creator, Judge, and Saviour of men.

And this is just as true, let me say, in conclusion, of man's own future and destiny. These heathen wise men have speculated about their souls, as they have about God, and found out as little. Baffled, bewildered, doubting, "Nothing but probabilities here," they have said. But we who have opened this book have found out that it is here, and here only, that "life and immortality are brought to light." The opinions of men have been started, have had more or less currency, met with more or less conflict—all doubting; but immortality shines out in the Holy Scriptures alone.

Now, running back in this direction, I desire that this assembly will take these principles and run them along, if they will be kind enough, with the operations of this Society, the Parent Society, and the British and Foreign Bible Society, in their glorious distribution of God's Word, and consider how, as it goes on the wings of the wind to enlighten men, that book shall yet form the character of the human family, the character of the household, the character of the church, the character of the state—how it shall form every thing that is dear to man and hopeful for the race — and how it shall make this world, cursed by sin, yet bud and blossom like the rose — This Word of the Lord. How significant the fact alluded to by our worthy Junior Secretary, that the hardened rebel hurled contempt upon the generous friend who offered him the Word of God, saying that he "believed in Southern rights, Southern institutions, Southern religion, a Southern Bible, and a Southern God!" It occurred to me that that rebel was not so insane as might at first be supposed. It occurred to me that he understood this very thing — that the Bible, and God, and religion taught in it, were not exactly in harmony with "Southern rights" and "Southern institutions," and he did not care about it for that very reason. If so, does not that speak volumes right in our

line of thought and operation here! And will not the book, which we are so rejoiced to know is being given by this Parent Society so freely to the Southern population — will not this book correct those false opinions of God, and religion, and Christ, and of the book itself, when the people shall have become acquainted with it, and thereby teach them how by their own mistakes in reference to this matter, they have been led to raise a puny army, not only against this Government, but against the GOD OF NATIONS? So it strikes me. Then there is that other consideration, so gratefully presented to us here to-day, that the Society is gathering funds faster than ever, and making distributions faster than ever. How providential is this - how very providential! Sir, the Bible Society is just now entering upon its proudest and most glorious career of usefulness, if we understand it. This rebellion, gotten up for another purpose, will open the door for carrying the Bible, not long hence, to millions of those sable sons and daughters of the South who have never been allowed to read it; and also to the white population, who in many cases are as ignorant, (as we know from personal observation,) as the black. When there is no slavery to be defended, and no longer any inducement to cripple and crush these black men, the white men will want the Bible; and your Society must give it to them. And what a work! — what a field! Thank God that this Society finds now warmer and more faithful friends than ever, and that funds are pouring in faster than ever before, just when they are most needed. When this rebellion is over—and God forbid it should be too long you will be called upon to plant the institutions of religion, a higher type of civil and social life, and a purer Christianity, in the South. That must be done from the Book of God, without mutilation, where every passage can be read and preached from without either fear, or blasphemous perversion.

I want to say, as I take my seat, that we have this one precious thought to stimulate us in our work, more than come from all other books, all other institutions, and that is this: This Bible, though so long ago given to man, brings to us, and contains to-day, the *present* thought of the Almighty, without any danger that it will ever be superseded by a new edition; for

God has provided against it himself. No line is to be blotted out, no line is to be added. That is the reason why it is so fresh and so vigorous to-day. It is the present, living, breathing thought of God, sweeping through his universe and doing his mighty work. We shall never be chagrined by finding it laid aside, or superseded by another edition, and thus becoming obsolete—no, never! He who made it is "the same yesterday, to-day, and forever." On this we stand; and we say with Luther:—"We cannot otherwise; God help us—Amen."

The services were concluded with the Doxology and Benediction.

CONSTITUTION.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

SEC. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Brown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

- SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal, which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.
- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.

Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

BY-LAWS.

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AT the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

ARTICLE I.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, fourteen Vice Presidents, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice Presidents, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice Presidents and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least there newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository.

ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository, annually, the value of one dollar in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

BY THE PAYMENT OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

Abbe, Rev. Frederick R., Abington. Abbe, Mrs. Frederick R. Aborn, John G., South Reading. Adams, Elizabeth W., Derry, N. H. *Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. Adams, Nebemiah, D. D., Boston. Adams, Stephen W., Medway. Adkins, Miss Mary J., South Deerfield. Albree, John, Boston. Albro, John A., D. D., Cambridge. Albro, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Albro, Miss Annie E. Alden, Almira S. C., Fozbore'. Alden, Russell, Campello. Alden, Miss Sarah B., Randolph. Alden, Miss Susan, Aldrich, Mrs. Mary B., Westboro'. Allen, Rev. Nathaniel G., Somerville. Allen, Richard H., Braintres. Ames, James B., Haverhill. Andrews, Artemas F., Fitchburg. Andrews, C. L., Boston. Andrews, W. T. *Appleton, Samuel, Boston. *Appleton, William, " Atwood, John W., North Bridgeweter. Babcock, Mrs. Nancy, Boston. Babcock, Rev. William R., Jamaica Plain-Bacon, Jacob, Gloucester. Bacon, Rev. James M., Essex. Bacon, Joseph N., Newton. Baker, Mrs. Eleanor J. W., Dorchester. Baker, Francis, South Danvers. Ball, Miss Elizabeth, Concord. Barber, Mrs. Eliza A., South Danvers. Barber, Martin, Sherbern. Barber, Rev. William M., South Danvers. Barker, Hiram, Brighton. Barnard, William F., Marlboro.' *Barnes, William, Barnes, Zilpah, Henniker, N. H. Barrett, Nathan H., " Barrett, Miss Rebecca M. Bartlett, Thomas, Boston. Bassett, Henry, Newton. Batchelor, Stephen F., Whitinsville.

Bayley, Robert, Newburyport. Beal, Alexander, Boston. Beal, Mrs. Louisa, Cokasset. Beane, Rev. Samuel, Norton. Beebe, James M., Boston. Beebe, Mrs. James M., Beston. Beebe, Charles E. Beebe, Francis L. Beebe, Edward P. " Beebe, Emily B. " 56 Beebe, Mary L. Beecher, Rev. William H., No. Breekfield. Belknap, Miss Martha M., Framingham. Benson, Frederick A., Newton. Blanchard, Miss Frances C., Groton. Bliss, Rev. Charles R., South Reading. Blodgett, Benjamin C., Newton. Blood, Cyrus, Winchester. Blood, Lyman, Groton. Bodwell, Rev. J. C., Woburn. Bodwell, Mrs. Catharine, " *Bond, George, Boston. Bowers, Luke K. Bowers, Mrs. Cara H. Brackett, James, Quincy. Brackett, Lemuel, *Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgetown. Brant, Aaron, South Reading. Breed, Rev. William J., Southbore'. Brower, Cyrus, Dorchester. Brewer, Mrs. C. F., Boston. Brewer, John R. Brickett, Franklin, Haverhill. Briggs, Rev. William T., Princeton. Briggs, Mrs. Abby L. *Bromfield, Elizabeth, *Beston*. *Brooks, Peter C. Brooks, Peter C. " " Brown, Mrs. Harriet L. Brown, Joseph, Groton. Brown, Mrs. Mary O., Haverhill. Bucklin, Simon S., Brooklins. Bulkley, Mrs. Catharine F., Groton. Burge, Lorenzo, Boston. Burr, Charles C., Auburndale. Burrage, J. C., Besten.

Burrill, Henry, Jr., East Abington. Butler, Rev. Daniel, Groton. Butler, Mrs. Jane D. Cady, Rev. Daniel R., West Cambridge. Cady, Mrs. Harriet S. Capen, Mrs. Charles, Framingham. Capron, William C., Uzbridge. Carleton, George H., Haverkill. Carpenter, Catharine E., Fozbero'. Carpenter, Daniel, Carpenter, Edson, Carter, Edward, Andover. Cary, George C., N. Bridgewater. Cary, Mrs. Mary D., Fozboro'. Chapin, Caleb T., Whitinsville. Chase, Ann Maria, Haverkill. Chase, Hezekiah A., Lynn. Chase, Robert, Haverhill. Child, Miss Lucy, Thetford, Vt. Childs, Carlos, Henniker, N. H. Childs, Horace, Choate, David, Salem. *Clap, James, Dorchester. Clap, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Clapp, James B. Clapp, John C. Clark, Rev. Edward L., No. Bridgewater. Clark, Elbridge, East Medway. Clark, George, Concerd. Clark, James G., Andover. Clark, Rev. Joseph B., Yarmoutk. Clark, John L., Andover. Clark, Jonathan, Winchester. Clark, Mrs. Miranda D., Boston. Clark, Oliver R., Winchester. Clark, Miss Nelly, Sherborn. Clark, Rev. P. K., South Destfield. Clark, Rufus W., D. D., Albany, N. Y. Clarke, Mrs. Adeliza H., Medway. Clarke, Rev. Dorus, Waltham. Clarke, Francis, Haverhill. Clary, Mrs. S. S., Wareham. Cleaveland, Waldo, South Deerfield. Clifford, Wyatt B., Chatham. Cobb, Andrew B., Newton Corner. Cobb, Jacob, Abington. Cobb, Rev. I., H., Andover. Boston. *Cobb, Richard, *Codman, Charles R. Codman, Mrs. Catharine, Colby, Albert, Colby, Barak, Henniker, N. H. Cole, Asa, West Medway. Cole, Miss Ella A., Medway. Conn, Horace, Weburn. Cook, Asa, Newton. Coolidge, Joseph, Besten.

Coolidge, Lowell, Shardorn.

Copp, Mrs. Fedora F., Chelses. Cousens, Beulah F., Newton Centre. Crafts, Mrs. Sarah P., Newton. Crosby, James, Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca, Cruikshanks, George, Whitinsville. Curtis, Abner, East Abington. Cushman, George H., North Bridgewater. Cutter, Stephen, Winchester. Cutter, Stephen H. Dakin, Thomas L., Sudbury. Damon, Albert P., Reading. Dana, Samuel, Besten. Dana, Charles B., Brookline. Dane, John H. Daniell, Mrs. Eliza B., E. Medway. Daniell, Otis, Boston. Davis, Alvah M., Haverhill. Davis, James, Boston. Davis, John, Methuen. Davis, Lydia K., Tyngsborough. Davis, Rev. Perley B., Sheron. Day, Robert L., Newton. Dickson, Oliver, Somerville. Dickson, Mrs. Sarah E. " Denham, Rev. George, Chelses. Denham, Mrs. Clara D. " Dickerman, Rev. Lysander, Weymouth. Dix, Mrs. Elijah, Boston. Dix, Samuel F., Newton. Dodd, Rev. Stephen G., East Randelph. Dodge, Rev. John, Harvard. Dodge, Mrs. Ann S. Dodge, Mrs. J. M. C., Andever. Doggett, Rev. Thomas, Groveland. Doggett, Mrs. Frances L. " Doggett, William, *Dorr, John, Besten. *Dow, Josiah, " *Dowse, Edward, Dedkam. Dowse, Elizabeth R. L., Sherbern. Dudley, P. W., Whitinsvills. Dunham, Charles H., Winchester. Dunlap, Sumner, South Deerfield. Dunn, Edward H., Boston. Dutch, Elizabeth M. Dyer, Rev. E. Porter, Hingham. Eager, William, Besten. Eames, Mrs. Nancy, Sherbern. Eames, Warren, Wilmington. Eastburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, Boston. Eaton, Mrs. Ann E., South Reading. Eaton, Eben, Framingham. Eaton, Miss Martha W., Fitchburg. Eaton, William, Besten. Eaton, William J., Westbere'. Eddy, Joshua, East Middlebere'. Edwards, Frederick B., N. Chelmaford.

Edwards, Maria P., N. Chelmsford. Edwards, Nathan B. Edwards, Nathan F. " Edwards, Sibbyl R. Edwards, Victor E. Eldred, Lorenzo, Falmouth. *Eliot, Samuel, Besten. *Eliot, Samuel A. " Ells, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Oberlin, O. *Elwell, Robert, Boston. Emerson, Jacob, Jr., Methuen. Emerson, Mrs. Jacob, Emerson, R. V. C., Newton. Emery, Mrs. Harriet, North Weymouth. Emery, Mrs. Mary, Chatham. Emery, Mrs. Sarah M., Newburyport. Everett, Edward, Boston. *Farnsworth, Mrs. Abel, Greton. Farr, Alba A., Methuen. Farwell, Stephen T., Cambridge. Fay, Cyrus, Westboro'. Fayerweather, Miss S. W., Westbore'. Fearing, Albert, Boston. Fearing, Mrs. Albert, " Fisher, Miss Eliza, Medway. Fisher, Milton M., Medway Village. Fitch, John A., Hopkinton. Fitz, Rev. Daniel, Ipswick. Fitz, Daniel, Jr. Fitz, Daniel F. Flanders, Joseph, Haverkill. Fletcher, Ephraim S., Whitinsville. Fletcher, Isaac W., Stow. Fletcher, Nancy B. Fletcher, Rev. James F., Danvers. Fletcher, Mrs. Lydia M. Fletcher, Mrs. L. C., Whitinsville. Fletcher, Stillman, Winchester. Flinn, Mrs. Paulona, Winchester. Floyd, Miss Mary J., South Danvers. Ford, Rev. George, East Falmouth. *Ford, Thomas A., Besten. Ford, Thomas A., North Bridgewater. Ford, Mrs. Eliza C. Fosdick, Charles, Groton. Foedick, Frederick, " Fosdick, Rose, " Foedick, Samuel W. " Foedick, Miss Mary, " Foster, Rev. Aaron, E. Cherlemont. Foster, Miss Eliza C., Rowley. *Francis, Ebenezer, Besten. Frothingham, A. T., Cembridge. Furber, Rev. Daniel L., Newton. Purber, Mrs. Maria B. Gale, Rev. Wakefield, Reckport. *Gale, Mrs. Wakefield, Gale, Justin Edwards,

Gallot, Nathan, Greten. Garrette, Rev. Edmund Y., Millburg. Garrette, Mrs. Franzenia W. Garrette, Mary Spring, *Gibbs, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Giles, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Rockport. Giles, Mrs. Mary Olive, Gloucester. Gilman, Miss Rebecca I., Bradford. Goodell, H. Augustus, Whitinsvills. Gordon, Solomon J., Boston. Gordon, Mrs. Rebecca, " Gordon, Jeannie, Gott, J. R., Rockport. *Grant, Moses, Boston. *Gray, Francis C. " *Gray, Henry, " Gray, Horace, " Gray, John C. Greeley, Rev. Edward H., Methuen. Greeley, Mrs. Edward H. Green, Rev. J. S. C., Newton. Greenwood, Mrs. Sally K., Skerbern. *Grew, John, Besten. Grover, Mrs. Caroline, Fozboro'. Hale, E. J. M., Haverkill. Hall, Mrs. Joseph F., Groton. *Hammatt, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Hammond, Rev. W. B., Merrisville, N. Y. Hammond, Mrs. Louise M. Harding, Mrs. Temple, Chatham. Hardwick, Thomas, Quincy. Hartwell, Lottie E., Groton. Hardy, Truman, Manchester. Hastings, Alice, Newtonvills. Hastings, Hollis, Framingham. *Hatch, Benjamin, East Falmouth. Hawes, Cynthia, Wrentham. Hayward, Elias, Braintres. Hayward, Paul, Askby. Headley, Rev. P. C., Greenfield. Healy, Rev. Joseph W., Walpole. Heard, John, Ipswick. Hersey, Jacob, Fozbere'. Hewins, Mrs. Annette P., Fozbere'. Hewins, Levi R., Fozboro'. *Higginson, Stephen, Jr., Boston. Hildreth, Mrs. Mary R., Greton. *Hill, Henry, Boston. Hill, Jotham, Woburn. Hitchcock, George M., Brimfield. Hobson, Miss Priscilla, Rowley. Holland, Miss Sarah E., Besten. Holm, Jacob P., Menchester. *Holmes, Abiel, D. D., Cembridge Holmes, Miss Elizabeth A., Belviders, M. Homer, Charles W., Cambridge. Hooker, George B., Skerbern. Hooper, Robert, Besten.

Hoppin, Rev. James M., New Haven, Ct. Hosmer, Miss Eliza, Concord. Hovey, George O., Boston. How, Frederick, Danvers. *How, James, Boston. *Howe, John, Howes, Collins, Chatham. Howard, Cary, North Bridgewater. Howard, David, Hoyt, Mrs. Maria, Framingham. Hubbard, Mrs. Charles A., Concord. Hulbert, Charles, Boston. Humphrey, Daniel, North Weymouth. Hurd, Francis P., M. D., South Reading. Butchins, Caroline M., Westford. Hutchins, Maria J. Hutchins, William E. *Hyslop, David, Beston. Jackman, Mrs. Susan M., Medway. Jackson, James, Beston. *Jackson, Patrick T. " Jeffries, Miss Catharine Amory, Beston. Jephson, Miss C. R., Breeklins. Johnson, Mrs. Emma E., Bradford. Johnson, Peter R., Holliston. Johnson, Mrs. S. W., Farmington, N. H. Jones, Augustus T., North Bridgewater. Jones, Henry E., Holliston. Joy, Mrs. Abigail, Boston. Keep, N. C., Boston. Keith, Adelbert F., Campelle. Keith, Albert, Keith, Arza B., Campello. *Keith, Charles, North Bridgewater. Keith, Ziba C., Campelle. Kendall, Mrs. Abel M., Boston. Kendall, William, Whitinsville. Kendrick, John, Haverkill. Kendrick, Mrs. Lydia F., Chathem. Kerr, Kobert W., Fozbore'. Kerr, Jane K. Kettelle, Jacob Q., Beston. Kimball, Benjamin, 2d, Haverkill. Kimball, David, Bradford. Kimball, Mrs. Sylvia, Grafton. Kingman, Miss Eliza, Beston. Kingman, Miss Sarah, Kingsbury, Nathaniel, Kittredge, Rev. Abbott E., Charlestewn. *Knowles, Rev. James D., Beston. Knox, Mrs. S., Rock Island, Ill. Lambert, Miss Elizabeth G., Rowley. Lambert, Rev. Thomas R., Charlestown. Lamson, Edwin, Boston. Lamson, Mrs. Edwin, " Lamson, Helen, Lane, Anthony, Lancaster. Lane, Rev. John W., Whately.

Lane, Richmond J., East Abington. Langworthy, Rev. Isaac P., Chelees. Larkin, Lydia E., Chester, N. H. Lasell, Josiah, Auburndels. *Lawrence, Amos, Besten. Lawrence, Rev. Amos E., Lancaster. Lawrence, Asa, Groton. *Lawrence, Mrs. M. A. Lawrence, Curtis, Lawrence, Mrs. Curtis, Lawrence, Mrs. Susan F., Greten. Lawrence, Mrs. Nancy T., Wilmington. Leach, Simeon, Stoughton. Leavitt, Mrs. Elizabeth G., Besten. Lee, Rev. Samuel H., North Bridgewater. Leeds, Benjamin, Brooklins. Leeds, Benjamin, Jr. Loeds, Mrs. Anne B. Leeds, Miss Anne G. " Lees, Mrs. Samuel, Concord. Lefavour, Issachar, Beverly. Leland, Calvin, Jr., Natick. Leonard, Eliza, Fozbore'. Leonard, James M., Bridgewater. Lewis, Reuben, Greton. Lincoln, F. W., Jr., Boston. *Lincoln, Noah, Little, Rev. Elbridge G., No. Middlebere'. Little, Waldo F., Newton Centra Little, William A. Livermore, George, Cambridge. *Locke, Ephraim, Boston. Loomis, Rev. Elihu, Littleten. Lord, John A., South Danvere. Lord, Louisa C., Manchester. Loring, Miss Hannah, Newton Centre. *Lowell, Charles, D. D., Beston. Lumb, William, Lyman, Rev. George, Sutton. Malthy, Rev. Erastus, Taunton. Manning, Otis, Littleton. Manning, Edward W., Woburn. Marble, Mrs. Mary E., Grafton. Marrett, Lorenzo, East Cambridge. Marsh, Elizabeth C., Haverhill Marsh, E. J., Greton. Marsh, Miss Julia M., Haverhill. *Marston, William, Boston. *McKean, William, " *McLean, Mrs. Ann, " Means, Rev. John O., Rezbury. Means, Mrs. John O. Messenger, Miss Eliza, Fitchburg. Mills, Rev. Charles L., Wrenthem. Mills, Mrs. Rebecca B. " Minot, William, Boston. Minot, William, Jr. " Mixter, Mrs. Fanny L., Boston.

Mixter, Mrs. Mary R., Hardwick. Mixter, Mrs. S. E., Rock Island, Ill. Moar, Rufus, Groton. Mooar, Rev. George, Oakland, Cal. Mordough, Rev. John H., Hamilton. Morley, Rev. Sardis B., Williamstown. Morrison, Miss Nancy T., Rowley. Morse, Miss Abby P., Emporia, Kansas. Morse, Charles N., Fezbere'. Morse, Miss Emily A., Bradford. Morse, Henry, Natick. Mosman, Walter B., Chicopes. Munger, Rev. Theodore T., Derchester. Murray, Rev. James O., Cambridgeport. Murray, Mrs. Julia R. Nason, Rev. Elias, Exeter, N. H. Nelson, Jonathan H., Skrewsbury. *Newell, Montgomery, Boston. Newhall, Lucy Ann, Stow. Nichols, James R., Haverkill. Nightingale, Rev. Crawford, Groton. Norcross, Josiah, South Reading. Nourse, Daniel, West Medway. Nourse, Susan, Bolton. Noyes, Alva, North Bridgewater. Odlin, Benjamin, Ezeter, N. H. Odlin, Mrs. E. T. Ordway, Aaron L., New York city. Ordway, Miss Charlotte, Bradford. Osborne, George F., South Danvers. Osgood, H. B., Whitinsville. Packard, Rev. D. Temple, Semerville. Packard, Zibson, Abington. Paige, George R., New Salem. Paige, L. Caroline, Paine, Mrs. Sarah M., Holden. *Paine, Miss Sarah C. Paimer, Rev. Charles Ray, Salem. *Palmer, Rev. Stephen, Needham. Palmer, Squire, South Deerfield. Park, John C., Boston. *Parker, John, " " Parker, Mrs. Sarah, " *Parkman, Francis, D. D. *Parkman, Samuel, " Parkman, Mrs. Sarah, Parmenter, Mrs. E. J. G., Petersham. *Parsons, Gorham, Boston. *Parsons, William, Partridge, Joseph, Holliston. Patrick, Rev. Henry J., West Newton. Patrick, Mrs. Martha L. Paul, Henry, Paul, Luther, " Paul Luther, Jr. Paul, Miss Harriet, *Paul, Miss Mary, Payson, Miss Susan, Fozbere'.

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Roberts, Rev. Jacob, East Medicay. Roberts, Mrs. Mary A. Robinson, Charles W., Auburndale. Robinson, H. W., North Bridgewater. Rockwood, John, Groton. Rockwood, Miss Polly S., Ashland. Boston. Rogers, George, " *Rogers, Rev. William M. Rogers, Shubael G. Russell, Sarah J., Framingham. Sanford, Mrs. Adeline D., Medway Village Safford, Rev. George B., Burlington, Vt. *Salisbury, Samuel, Boston. Sargent, Lucius M. Sawtell, Mrs. Ephraim, Groton. Scudder, Charles, Boston. Scudder, Mrs. Sarah L. " Seaver, A. W., Northboro'. Seeley, Rev. Raymond H., Haverhill. Seeley, Mrs. Fanny B. Selfridge, Thomas O., Beston. Shattuck, Andrew, Groton. Shaw, Mrs. Hannah, Boston. Sheldon, Rev. Luther, Westboro'. Sheldon, Mrs. Sarah H. Shiverick, Miss Maria L., Campelle. *Sigourney, Andrew, Boston. Sigourney, Henry, *Slack, Ruggles, Slafter, Rev. Edmund F. " Small, Samuel A., Millbury. Small, Mrs. Sumner, Newton Centre. Smith, Albert W., Brookline. Smith, Mrs. Lucy Jane, " Smith, Rev. Edward P., Pepperell. Smith, Mrs. Hattie, Gloucester Smith, Rev. Matson M., Bridgeport, Ct. Smith, Mrs. Matson M. Smith, Norman, Groton. Smith, Richard, South Danvers. Smith, Mrs. Charlotte, " *Smith, Samuel, Boston. Snow, Mrs. Caroline, Newton Corner. Snow, Mrs. Mark, Chatham. Soule, Henry M., South Abington. Southgate, Rev. Robert, Ipsi Southgate, Mrs. Mary Frances, " Spooner, W. B., Boston. Spring, Mrs. Adela C., Whitinsville. Stacy, Albert, Concord. Stebbins, Rev. Milan C., Lancaster. Stevens, Norman C., Boston. Stevens, Mrs. E. M. Stevens, Samuel, Gloucester. Stoddard, Lewis T., Brookline. Stone, Andrew L., D. D., Boston. Stone, Mrs. Matilda F. Stone, Martha A., Newton Centre.

Storrs, Eunice C. Braintree. Storrs, Richard S., D. D. " Strong, Rev. J. C., St. Charles, Minnesota. Strong, Mrs. J. C., Sumner, Mrs. H. H., Fezbere'. Swazey, Mrs. Frances A., Lynn. Swett, Samuel W., Boston. Tapley, Gilbert, Danvers. Tappan, John, Boston. Taylor, Mrs. Malansa, Winchester. Teele, Rev. Albert K., Milton. Teele, Mrs. Cornelia C. " Temple, Mark M., Reading. Tenney, Mrs. Mary P., Winchester. Terry, Rev. James P., South Weymouth. Thacher, Mrs. Anna B., Hyds Park. Thacher, Miss Calista C., Attlebore'. Thacher, Mrs. Susan C. Thacher, John, Attleboro'. Thacher, William T. " Thacher, Susan B., Portland, Me. *Thatcher, Mary Ludlow, Middlebore'. Thayer, Amasa, Braintree. Thayer, Ira, Braintres. Thayer, Mrs. Lilla, " Thayor, Rev. J. Henry, Salem. Thayer, Mrs. Martha C. Thayer, Oliver, Thayer, Mrs. Jane, Boston. Thayer, Robert H., New York City. Thompson, Everett A., West Amesbury. Thompson, Samuel A. Thompson, Mrs. Anne Eliza, " Thurston, Rev. Richard B., Waltham. Tolman, Rev. Richard, Tewksbury. Tolman, Rev. Samuel H., Wilmington. Turrey, Miss Elizabeth L., South Weymouth. Torrey, James, North Weywouth. Trask, Mrs. A. H., Manchester. Trowbridge, Mrs. Asa, Brighton. Tucker, Rev. Elijah W., Lebanon, Ct. Tucker, Mrs. Hannah W. Tucker, Jesse, Tucker, Nathan, Tucker, Mrs. Nathan, " Tucker, William, *Dorck* Tucker, William W., Boston. Tusts, Charles, Andover. Tuttle, Miss Sarah, " Tuttle, Thomas, Littleton. Twichell, John M., Fitchburg. Tyler, Jerome W., Boston. Underhill, Rev. John W., N. Amherst. Upton, Moses T., Salem. Vose, William H., Fitchburg. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. Walcott, William, Danvers. Wales, Erastus, East Randolph.

Wales, Miss Mary Ann, Boston. Walker, Miss Frances A., Haverkill. Walker, John S., East Medway. Walker, Mrs. John 8. " Walker, Moses, Haverhill. Walker, Nathaniel, Boston. Walker, Robert G. Walker, William M., East Abington. *Walley, Samuel H., Boston. Walley, Samuel H. Ward, Artemas, Ward, Salem T., Winchester. Warner, John, Newton. Warren, Mrs. Diantha A., Lynn. Warren, Mrs. Maria, Grafton. *Warren, Nehemiah, Storo. Warren, Francis W. Warren, Jonas, Warren, Lucinda, Warren, William A., Winchester. Watkins, Miss Abby A., Gloucester. Welch, John, Beston. Weld, James, Weils, Mrs. Martha D., Northboro'. Wellman, Rev. Joshua W., Newton. Wendell, Mrs. Catharine, Boston. Wheeler, Miss Abby F., Concord. Whitcomb, Lewis, East Randolph. Herverd. *Whitcomb, Reuben, *Whitcomb, Reuben, Jr. Whitcomb, Mrs. Abby F. Whitcomb, Mrs. Louisa D. Whitcomb, Miss Mary M. White, Cornelius, South Randolph. *White, James, Boston. White, Josiah, Peterskem. White, Mrs. Mary C., Easton. White, Newton, East Randelph.

Whitin, Charles P., Whitinsville. Whitin, James F. " Whitin, Paul, Whitman, Charles, Lowell. Whitmarsh, Mary, South Abington. Whitney, Charles H., Fitchburg. Whitney, Dora S., South Groton. Whitney, Helen J., Stow. Whitney, Israel, Boston. Whitney, Mrs. Permelia V., Peterskam. Whitney, Richard D., Nashua, N. H. Whitney, Mrs. Susanna, Rutland. *Wigglesworth, Thomas, Boston. Wilbur, Joseph, Taunton. Wild, Daniel, Boston. Wilder, Hattie, Stow. Willcox, Rev. William H., Reading. Williams, Rev. Edward F., Whitinsville. Wilson, Rev. Thomas, Stoughton. Winslow, Pelham, East Abington. Winthrop, Robert C., Boston. *Winthrop, Thomas L. Withington, Otis, Brookline. Wolcott, William, Denvers. Woodbury, Simon J., Sutton. Wood, Mrs. Abijah, Westboro'. Wood, Elizabeth C., Fozboro'. Wood, Mrs. E. S., Whitinsville. Wood, Mrs. Samuel F., Chelmsford. Wood, Mrs. Susan, Groton. Woods, Miss Abbie Wheeler, Malden. Woods, Joseph Wheeler, Boston. Woods, Samuel H. Woodward, Ebenezer, Newton. Woodward, Miss Emily, Newton U. Falls. *Worthington, William, Boston. Wyman, William G., Fitchburg.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

Receipts from May 1, 1862, to May 1, 1863.

SUFFOLK COUNTY.

Boston.	Society of	Rev. Dr. Adam	s, Essex	Street,	•	•	\$ 108	04
"	11	46		ble acco v		65.	•	
46	44	Rev. Mr. Alder			•	•	69	75
44	66	Rev. Messrs. B		•)ld		
			•		•	•	53	78
• 6	44	Dr. Kirk, Mou	nt Verno	on, .	•	•	93	47
44	"	Dr. Robbins, S	Second C	hurch, (5 L. M.)	•	200	00
46	66	Dr. Stone, Par	k Street,	•	•	•	115	82
46	Bromfield	Street Methodis	Episcop	al Chur	ch, .	•	73	00
66	Tremont S	treet Methodist	Episcopa	l Church	ı, .	•	22	00
44		mory, Esq.			•	•	100	00
44		rine Amory Jeff		R. A. B. 8	. 1 L. M.	in		
	part,)	•	•		•	•	25	00
16	•	mas O. Selfridge	e, (1 L. M	[. A. B. S	.) .	•	30	00
46	Miss J. M.	•				•	2	00
66		20; do. \$10; d	o. \$ 3; d	lo. to ci	rculate	the		
		n the army, \$1				_		
	65 cts.	:	•		•	•	38	37
Chelse	a, Broadwa	y Church and So	ociety, b	alance, .	•	•	2	00
							\$ 933	28
		Doorv	COTTAT	msz			V 000	
		ESSEA	COUN	II.				
Amesb	ury and Sal	lisbury Mills Vil	lage, Con	gregatio	nal Chu	rch		
an	d Society,	for circulating the	he Bible	in the ar	my, .	•	\$ 12	75
Amesb	ury, West,	Congregational	Church a	and Soci	ety, (3	L. M.	64	07
Andov	er, Old Sou	th Church and	Society,	•	•	•	79	05
66	Ballardy	ale Union Chur	ch and S	lociety,	•	•	2	00
46	North,	Trinitarian Cong	regations	al Churc	ch, (1 L	. M .		•
	in par	t,)	• •	•		•	13	20
Beverly	y, Charlotte	Lovett, decease	ed, .	•		•	10	00
Danver	rs, First Co	ngregational Ch	urch and	Society	, .	•	32	00
66	Maple S	treet Church and	d Society	7, .	•	•	27	46
	_	7	•					

Gloucester, Evangelical Church and Society, (2 L. M.) .	. 🛊	48	1
" Elm Street Methodist Episcopal Church, .	•	4	0
Hamilton, Congregational Church and Society,	•	12	5
Haverhill, Centre Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M	i.)	64	40
" West Parish (FOR A. B. S.)	•	10	0(
Ipswich, South Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.))	20	2
Lawrence, Central Congregational Church and Society, (1 L.	x.)	19	13
" Lawrence Street Church and Society,		31	60
Lynn, First Church,	•	23	9(
Manchester, Society of Rev. F. V. Tenney,	•	26	04
Methuen, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	•	47	43
Newbury, Byfield, Congregational Church and Society,	•	7	24
Newburyport, Society of Rev. Mr. Fisk,		87	41
"A friend,		25	00
Salem, Crombie Street Church,	,	78	0(
"South Church,	, (42	54
South Danvers, Congregational Church and Society,	, (46	32
	\$ 83	34	46
MIDDI BORY COMMIN			
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.			
Cambridge, Shepard Congregational Church and Society, .	\$ 11	15	00
Chelmsford, Middlesex Village, Mrs. Samuel F. Wood, (1 L.	M.) 2	20	00
Concord, Union Bible Society,	. 8	30	00
Framingham, Hollis Evangelical Church and Society,	3	34	34
" Saxonville, Edwards Church and Society, .	. 3	33	29
Groton, Union Orthodox Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	3	39	00
Holliston, First Congregational Church and Society,		28	58
Lincoln, Congregational Church and Society,	. 2	28	00
Littleton, Congregational Church and Society,	. 1	11	50
Lowell, First Church,	2	25	00
" John Street Church,		30	75
" Kirk Street Church,	11	17	60
" Miss Emily Rogers, to circulate the Bible in the army	7,	5	00
Medford, Mystic Church,	1	8	80
Newton, First Church, (3 L. M.)		58	05
" Auburndale, Congregational Church and Society, .	3	34	63
" A friend, \$20; do. \$2.50;	2	22	5 0
" West, Congregational Church and Society, to circu-			
late the Bible in the army,	3	39	30
Pepperell, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, .	1	4	35
Reading, Old South Church and Society,	2	26	27
Sherborn, Female Reading and Benevolent Society, (2 L. M. in p	art,) 8	80	00
Shirley, Congregational Church and Society,		2	
Somerville, First Orthodox Congregational Church and Societ	y , 3	4	61
South Reading, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 1	•	is.	ሰብ

Stow, Nehemiah Warren, (10 L. M.)	\$ 200	00
Townsend, Congregational Church and Society,	. 7	00
Waltham, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society,	28	35 .
" Methodist Episcopal Church,	. 5	25
" Mr. Haynes,	. 2	00
West Cambridge, Orthodox Congregational Church and Socie	•	90
Westford, Union Congregational Church and Society, .		00
" Mrs. Lydia K. Davis, (1 L. M.)		00
Wilmington, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,		53
Winchester, Congregational Church and Society,		00
Woburn, Congregational Church and Society,	. 30	00
•	\$ 1,370	60
WORCESTER COUNTY.		
Clinton, Mrs. Adeline Kendrick, (FOR A. B. S.)	. \$ 10	00
Fitchburg, Religious Charitable Society, (2 L. M. A. B. S.)	•	54
Harvard, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,	. 28	05
Lancaster, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society	•	
(1 L. M.)	. 23	00
Lunenburg, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,	7	00
Northboro', Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,		45
Northbridge, Whitinsville, Cong. Church and Society, (5 L.	•	
" deceased soldier, James B. Fletch	•	00
North Brookfield, First Congregational Church and Society,		00
Princeton, Mrs. Mason,		00
Shrewsbury, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		50
Upton, Congregational Church and Society,		04
Uxbridge, Evan. Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. Warren, Congregational Church and Society,	_	00
Westboro', Evan. Congregational Church and Society, (2 L.	_	48 41
Worcester, David Whitcomb,	•	00
Winchendon, Rev. Benjamin F. Clark,		00
	\$ 931	87
HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.		
Mr. James Brewer, Springfield, Tr.		
Chicopee, Third Cong. Church and Society, (2 L. M. A. B. S.)	\$ 59	28
" Sarah Jennings, (1 L. M. in part,)	. 11	00
Monson, Congregational Church and Society, for circulating	g	
the Bible in the army,	. 64	25
" Andrew W. Porter,		00
Donations,	. 372	44
	:	
	\$ 606	97

FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.

Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.

Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Groenfield, Tr.		
Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,	21	28
Bernardston, Orthodox Church and Society,	1	75
Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society,	7	00
Conway, Congregational Church and Society,	56	13
" Estate of Anna Maynard, Legacy,	50	00
East Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society,	20	00
Gill, Congregational Church and Society,	3	85
Greenfield, First Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.)	32	00
" Second Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.)	30	00
Hawley, Mrs. Philip Bassett, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
Leverett, Congregational Church and Society,	14	25
Montague, Congregational Church and Society, \$15 22; \$19 50;	34	72
Shelburne, Gent. Association, \$16 90; ladies' do. \$13 85;.	80	75
South Deerfield, Monument Church and Society, \$16 80;		
Sabbath School, \$3 20; (1 L. M.)	20	00
Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society,	4	50
Warwick, Trinitarian Society,	7	00
Whately, Congregational Church and Society,	7	50
•		
	70	73
NORFOLK COUNTY.		
Bellingham, Estate of Seneca White, by Rev. Dr. Ide,	10	00
Braintree, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	O.F	
Diamute, That Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. A.)	20	00
"South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,)		00
		00
"South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,)	8	00 00
South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society,	8 4 0	00 00 10
"South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.)	8 40 40	00 00 10 05
South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, Dorchester, Second Congregational Church and Society, 1	8 40 40 67	00 00 10 05 00
South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, Dorchester, Second Congregational Church and Society, A lady, A lady,	8 40 40 67 10 24	00 00 10 05 00
South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, Dorchester, Second Congregational Church and Society, A lady, Franklin, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,)	8 40 40 67 10 24	00 00 10 05 00 48
South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, Dorchester, Second Congregational Church and Society, A lady, Franklin, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,) Medfield, A friend,	8 40 40 67 10 24	00 00 10 05 00 48 00 33
South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, Dorchester, Second Congregational Church and Society, A lady, Franklin, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,) Medfield, A friend, Medway, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	8 40 40 67 10 24 1	00 00 10 05 00 48 00 33 25
South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, Dorchester, Second Congregational Church and Society, A lady, Franklin, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,) Medfield, A friend, Medway, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Village, Church and Society, (bal. for 2 L. M.)	8 40 40 67 10 24 1 27 34	00 00 10 05 00 48 00 33 25 54
South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, Morchester, Second Congregational Church and Society, A lady, Franklin, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,) Medfield, A friend, Medway, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Village, Church and Society, (bal. for 2 L. M.) West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	8 40 40 67 10 24 1 27 34 24	00 00 10 05 00 48 00 33 25 54
"South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.)	8 40 40 67 10 24 1 27 34 24	00 00 10 05 00 48 00 33 25 54 38 25
South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, Morchester, Second Congregational Church and Society, A lady, Franklin, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,) Medfield, A friend, Wedway, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Randolph, East, Winthrop Church and Society, A friend,	8 40 40 67 10 24 1 27 34 24 39	00 00 10 05 00 48 00 33 25 54 38 25 68
South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, Medham, First Congregational Church and Society, A lady, Franklin, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,) Medheld, A friend, Wedway, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Randolph, East, Winthrop Church and Society, A friend, Roxbury, Eliot Church and Society,	8 40 40 67 10 24 1 27 34 24 39 85 10	00 00 10 05 00 48 00 33 25 54 38 25 68
"South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, "A lady, "A lady, Franklin, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S. in part,) Medfield, A friend, "Village, Church and Society, (bal. for 2 L. M.) "West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) "West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Randolph, East, Winthrop Church and Society, "A friend, "A friend, "Warren Street Methodist Episcopal Church, "Warren Street Methodist Episcopal Church,	8 40 40 67 10 24 1 27 34 24 39 85 10 3	00 00 10 05 00 48 00 33 25 54 38 25 68
"South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, "A lady, "A lady, Franklin, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,) Medfield, A friend, "Village, Church and Society, (bal. for 2 L. M.) "West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) "West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Randolph, East, Winthrop Church and Society, "A friend, "A friend, "Warren Street Methodist Episcopal Church, "A friend, "A fri	8 40 40 67 10 24 1 27 34 24 39 85 10 3	00 00 10 05 00 48 00 33 25 54 38 25 68 00 00
"South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, "A lady, "A lady, Franklin, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,) Medfield, A friend, "Village, Church and Society, (bal. for 2 L. M.) "West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) "West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Randolph, East, Winthrop Church and Society, "A friend, "A friend, "Warren Street Methodist Episcopal Church, "A friend, "Jamaica Plain, Mrs. Charles Bradford,	8 40 40 67 10 24 1 27 34 24 39 85 10 3	00 00 10 05 00 48 00 33 25 54 38 25 68 00 00 00 00
"South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, Dorchester, Second Congregational Church and Society, "A lady, Franklin, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,) Medfield, A friend, "Village, Church and Society, (bal. for 2 L. M.) "West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) "West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Randolph, East, Winthrop Church and Society, "A friend, "A f	8 40 40 67 10 24 1 27 34 24 39 85 10 3 2 35	00 00 10 05 00 48 00 33 25 54 38 25 68 00 00 00 00 00
"South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, Dorchester, Second Congregational Church and Society, "A lady, "A lady, Franklin, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,) Medfield, A friend, "Village, Church and Society, (1 L. M.) "West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) "West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Randolph, Bast, Winthrop Church and Society, "A friend, "A friend, "Warren Street Methodist Episcopal Church, "A friend, "Jamaica Plain, Mrs. Charles Bradford, Sharon, Congregational Church and Society, Stoughton, First Congregational Church and Society, "Stoughton, First Congregational Church and Society, Weymouth, East, Congregational Church and Society,	8 40 40 67 10 24 1 27 34 24 39 85 10 3 2 35 16	00 00 10 05 00 48 00 33 25 54 38 25 68 00 00 00 00 03 00 15
"South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,) Brookline, Albert W. Smith, (2 L. M.) Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society, Dorchester, Second Congregational Church and Society, "A lady, "A lady, Franklin, Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S. in part,) Medfield, A friend, "Village, Church and Society, (1 L. M.) "West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) "West, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Randolph, Bast, Winthrop Church and Society, "A friend, "A friend, "A friend, "Jamaica Plain, Mrs. Charles Bradford, "Jamaica Plain, Mrs. Charles Bradford, Sharon, Congregational Church and Society, Stoughton, First Congregational Church and Society, Weymouth, East, Congregational Church and Society,	8 40 40 67 10 24 1 27 34 24 39 85 10 3 5 16 20 35	00 00 10 05 00 48 00 33 25 54 38 25 68 00 00 00 00 03 00 15

Weymouth, Methodist Episcopal Church, (FOR A. B. S.) Wrentham, First Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 12	00
BRISTOL COUNTY.	\$ 690	24
Attleboro', Sisters, to constitute a brother a L. M	\$ 20	00 50
Taunton, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society, Winslow Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,)	40 -13	15 50
PLYMOUTH COUNTY.	\$ 74	15
Abington, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) "East, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Kingston, Rev. Joseph Peckham,	26	00 20 00
Middleboro', First Congregational Church and Society, . "Central Congregational Church and Society, .	25 14	33 85
North Bridgewater, First Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M.) "Porter Evan. Church and Society, (2 L. M.) Plymouth, Church of the Pilgrimage,) 40	00 00 51
"South Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		00
BARNSTABLE COUNTY.	\$ 199	86
Mr. John Munroe, Tr.		
Barnstable, Centreville, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 20	56
" Cotuitport,		00
circulate the Bible in the army,		00
Chatham, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		25
Falmouth, First Congregational Church and Society,		00
"North, Rev. L. Wheaton, (1 L. M. A. B. 8.) . Yarmouth, Sylvester Baker, Jr., to circulate the Bible in the an		00
MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS.	\$ 119	81
Colesburgh, Iowa, Joseph Graham,	\$ 3	00
Derry, N. H., Miss Abby Choate, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,) .	•	00
Exeter, N. H., A friend,	15	00
Merrimack, N. H., Miss Mary Ann Merriam, deceased, (2		
L. M. A. B. S.)	60	00
Portland, Me., Susan B. Thacher, (2 L. M.)	40	
" A friend, (1 L. M.)	20	
Thetford, Vt., Miss Lucy Child, (1 L. M. in part,)	10	
Walpole, N. H., Mr. Simeon N. Perry,	200	00
	\$ 358	30

COLLECTIONS.

By the Rev. E. F. SLAFTER	, Age	nt of	the A	nerican	Bible	Society.	
Church of the Messiah, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	. \$ 30	57
St. Andrew's Church, Hanover,		•	•	•	•	. 25	00
St. Peter's Church, Salem, .	•	•	•	•	•	. 36	45
Episcopalians in Ipswich, .	•	•	•	•	•	. 3	00
St. Matthew's Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	. 22	09
Grace Church, Lawrence, .	•	•	•	•	•	. 33	00
Christ Church, Hyde Park, .	•	•	•	•	•	. 5	03
Grace Church, Newton Corner,	•	•	•	•	•	. 12	95
G., Newton Corner,	•	•	•	•	•	. 50	00
St. John's Church, Jamaica Pla	in, .	•	•	•	•	. 112	44
Dr. William R. Lawrence, Bost	on,	•	•	•	•	. 50	00
St. Paul's Church, Boston, .	•	•	•	•	•	. 445	00
Emmanuel Church, Boston, .	•	•	•	•	•	. 411	00
Trinity Church, Boston, .	•	•	•	•	•	. 723	00
Christ Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	. 5	55
St. Paul's Church, Dedham, .	•	•	•	•	•	. 54	50
Grace Church, Medford, .	•	•	•	•	•	. 12	70
St. Paul's Church, Brookline,	•	•	•	•	•	. 123	16
St. Mary's Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	. 1	01
Member of Grace Church, Bost	on,	•	•	•	•	. 5	00
St. Mary's Church, Newton Lo	wer F	'alls,	•	•	•	. 20	00
St. Andrew's Church, Hanover,		•	•	•	•	. 30	00
						\$ 2,211	45
τ.	EGA	CTRS					
				17-1-		A 500	00
Boston, A friend deceased, by I			•	•		. \$ 500	
Lancaster, Lydia Lane, by Anti	•		-				00
Roxbury, Nathaniel Snow, by Swett, and Shubael G. Ro			_	* '			
Government tax,	•	•	•	•	•	. 475	00
Westford, Mrs. Lydia Whitman	, by]	Nath	an B.	Edward	ls, Ex	'r, 360	00
Bequest of Ann Kingsbury, by	y N.	King	sbury,	Ex'r,	\$ 500	;	
less \$25, Government tax, .	•	•	•	•	•	. 475	00
						\$ 2,510	00
						•	
Annual subscriptions,	•	•	•	•	•	. \$ 466	00
Returned for books donated, .	•	•	•	•	•	. 10	78
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Whole amount acknowledged in	the i	D re ce	dinø li	ists.		\$ 24,964	46
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ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY

THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING

IN BOSTON,

MAY 23, 1864, BEING THEIR FIFTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON, 42 CONGRESS STREET.

1864.

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Roberts, Rev. Jacob, East Medicay. Roberts, Mrs. Mary A. Robinson, Charles W., Auburndals. Robinson, H. W., North Bridgewater. Rockwood, John, Groton. Rockwood, Miss Polly S., Askland. Rogers, George, Boston. *Rogers, Rev. William M. Rogers, Shubael G. Russell, Sarah J., Framingkam. Sanford, Mrs. Adeline D., Medway Village. Safford, Rev. George B., Burlington, Vt. *Salisbury, Samuel, Boston. Sargent, Lucius M. Sawtell, Mrs. Ephraim, Groton. Scudder, Charles, Beston. Scudder, Mrs. Sarah L. " Seaver, A. W., Northboro'. Seeley, Rev. Raymond H., Haverhill. Seeley, Mrs. Fanny B. Selfridge, Thomas O., Beston. Shattuck, Andrew, Groton. Shaw, Mrs. Hannah, Boston. Sheldon, Rev. Luther, Westbore'. Sheldon, Mrs. Sarah H. Shiverick, Miss Maria L., Campelle. *Sigourney, Andrew, Bestex. Sigourney, Henry, *Slack, Ruggles, Slafter, Rev. Edmund F. " Small, Samuel A., Millbury. Small, Mrs. Sumner, Newton Centre. Smith, Albert W., Brookline. Smith, Mrs. Lucy Jane, " Smith, Rev. Edward P., Pepperell. Smith, Mrs. Hattie, Gloucester Smith, Rev. Matson M., Bridgeport, Ct. Smith, Mrs. Matson M. Smith, Norman, Groton. Smith, Richard, South Denvers. Smith, Mrs. Charlotte, " *Smith, Samuel, Boston. Snow, Mrs. Caroline, Newton Corner. Snow, Mrs. Mark, Chatham. Soule, Henry M., South Abington. Southgate, Rev. Robert, I Southgate, Mrs. Mary Frances, " Spooner, W. B., Boston. Spring, Mrs. Adela C., Whitinsville. Stacy, Albert, Concord. Stebbins, Rev. Milan C., Lancaster. Stevens, Norman C., Boston. Stevens, Mrs. E. M. Stevens, Samuel, Gloucester. Stoddard, Lewis T., Brookline. Stone, Andrew L., D. D., Boston. Stone, Mrs. Matilda F.

Stone, Martha A., Newton Centre.

Storre, Eunice C. Breintree. Storrs, Richard S., D. D. " Strong, Rev. J. C., St. Cherles, Minneseta. Strong, Mrs. J. C., Sumner, Mrs. H. H., Fezbere'. Swazey, Mrs. Frances A., Lynn. Swett, Samuel W., Boston. Tapley, Gilbert, Danvers. Tappan, John, Besten. Taylor, Mrs. Malansa, Winchester. Teele, Rev. Albert K., Milton. Teele, Mrs. Cornelia C. " Temple, Mark M., Reading. Tenney, Mrs. Mary P., Winchester. Terry, Rev. James P., South Weymouth. Thacher, Mrs. Anna B., Hyde Park. Thacher, Miss Calista C., Attlebore'. Thacher, Mrs. Susan C. Thacher, John, Attleboro'. Thacher, William T. " Thacher, Susan B., Portland, Me. *Thatcher, Mary Ludlow, Middlebere'. Thayer, Amasa, Breintres. Thayer, Ira, Braintree. Thayer, Mrs. Lilla, " Thayer, Rev. J. Henry, Salem. Thayer, Mrs. Martha C. Thayer, Oliver, Thayer, Mrs. Jane, Boston. Thayer, Robert H., New York City. Thompson, Everett A., West Amesbury. Thompson, Samuel A. Thompson, Mrs. Anne Eliza, " Thurston, Rev. Richard B., Welthem. Tolman, Rev. Richard, Tewksbury. Tolman, Rev. Samuel H., Wilmington. Torrey, Miss Elizabeth L., South Weymouth. Torrey, James, North Weymouth. Trask, Mrs. A. H., Manchester. Trowbridge, Mrs. Asa, Brighton. Tucker, Rev. Elijah W., Lebanon, Ct. Tucker, Mrs. Hannah W. Tucker, Jesse, Tucker, Nathan, Tucker, Mrs. Nathan, " Tucker, William, Dor Tucker, William W., Besten. Tufts, Charles, Andover. Tuttle, Miss Sarab, " Tuttle, Thomas, Littleton. Twichell, John M., Fitchburg. Tyler, Jerome W., Boston. Underhill, Rev. John W., N. Amkerst. Upton, Moses T., Salem. Vose, William H., Fitchburg. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. Walcott, William, Danvers. Wales, Erastus, East Randolph.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FROM 1809 TO 1864.

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	PRESID							
Hon. William Phillips, Rev. John Pierce, D. D Hon. Simon Greenleaf, LL. D	1809—27 1827—49 1849—54	Hon. Richard Fletcher, Hon. Samuel H. Walley,						
V I	CE PRES	SIDENTS.						
Rev. John Lathrop, D. D. Rev. John T. Kirkland, D. D. Rev. Henry Ware, D. D. Rev. John Codman, D. D. Hon. Simon Greenleaf, LL. D. Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D. Rev. N. L. Tothingham, D. D. Rev. Wm. R. Nicholson, D. D. William C. Plunkett, Esq. Edward Southworth, Esq. John P. Williston, Esq.	1809—16 1816—28 1828—44 1844—48 1848—49 1849—53 1853—61 1861 1862 1863	William D. Washburn, Esq. Stephen Salisbury, Esq. Charles Whitin, Esq. Lee Claffin, Esq. Caleb Holbrook, Esq. James S. Amory, Esq. Hon. John H. Clifford, LL. D. Elisha Tucker, Esq. James B. Crocker, Esq. E. S. Mosely, Esq.	1863 1863 1863 1863 1863 1863 1863 1863					
CORRESPO	ONDING	SECRETARIES.						
Rev. Joseph Stevens Buckminster Rev. Samuel C. Thacher, Rev. Charles Lowell, D. D	1813—17	Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D Rev. N. L. Frothingham, D. D. Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D.	1818—49 1849—53 1853					
RECOR	DING S	ECRETARIES.						
Rev. John Pierce, D. D Rev. Daniel Sharp, D. D Rev. Cyrus P. Grosvenor, Rev. James D. Knowles, Rev. William Jenks, D. D	1828—30 1830—31 1831—32	Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D. Rev. William M. Rogers, Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D. Rev. George Richards, Rev. Daniel Butler,	1839—44 1844—45 1845—49 1849—52 1852					
•	TREASU	RERS.						
Samuel H. Walley, Esq Hon. Peter O. Thacher, John Tappan, Esq		Henry Edwards, Esq George B. Sampson, Esq Charles Henry Parker, Esq	1849—62					
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES.								
Rev. William E. Channing, D. D. Hon. Jonathan Phillips, Stephen Higginson, Esq Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D Edward Tuckerman, Esq Rev. Henry Ware, Jr., D. D Rev. Benjamin B. Wisner, D. D. Charles Tappan, Esq	1809—16 1809—15 1815—18 1816—30 1818—30 1821—35	Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D. Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D. Henry Edwards, Esq Rev. George Richards, George R. Sampson, Esq Albert Fearing, Esq Rev. John O. Means,	1832—58 1835—49 1840—49 1849—60 1849—63 1853 1860 1862					
Rev. Benjamin B. Wisner, D. D. Charles Tappan, Esq		Rev. John O. Means, Charles Henry Parker, Esq	18 6 0 18 6 2					

ANNUAL REPORT.

In reviewing our labors for another year, several things claim our grateful recognition. Through the divine favor, all those officially connected with the Society at the beginning of the year are still spared to witness its prosperity, and to labor for the furtherance of its work. We rejoice also in the fact, that, in a period of great public commotion, when material interests have clamored for our exclusive attention, when the strange things seen are fitted to vail from our thoughts the things that are unseen, we have been enabled to prosecute our work to an extent scarcely exceeded by that of any previous year.

The number of volumes issued from our Depository during the year, is sixty-one thousand two hundred and sixty-eight. Of this number, sixteen thousand and twenty-six were Bibles; twenty-seven thousand one hundred and eleven, Testaments; eight thousand eight hundred and thirty Testaments with the Psalms; and nine thousand three hundred and twenty-eight, portions of the Scriptures. Of these, twelve hundred and fifty-two were in vari-

ous foreign languages. Our issues are less by four thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine copies than the number reported last year. This diminution, however, has taken place in the smaller portions of the Scriptures, while of the entire Bible the circulation is one thousand five hundred and eighteen copies in excess of that of the last year.

Of the gratuitous issues, amounting to twentytwo thousand five hundred and ninety-seven volumes, at a cost of \$4,284.39, not less than sixteen thousand six hundred and forty-four copies have been given to our soldiers and sailors, in the naval and merchant service. The demands from this source are still great, and they receive, as they deserve, a most grateful response. While the life of the nation is assailed, they who stand forth in its defense will not ask in vain for the Scriptures. Guardians of our civilization, of our freedom; of the institutions bequeathed us from the past; and of all the hopes we cherish for the future, their spiritual no less than their temporal wants, we gladly make our Multiplying testimonies to the value of this form of charity we have, from those who labor among the soldiers as well as from the soldiers themselves. Not a few have read the Scriptures for the first time in camp, and through the divine Spirit have been led to accept the salvation they offer. No fairer field for the circulation of the Word of Life exists than that which is found among our brave defenders, and from none is gathered a richer harvest.

Our work among the soldiers consists mainly in furnishing with the Scriptures those who go to the war from this State. Their re-supply is effected principally by the National Society. As the number of men recruited in the State has been less this year than the last, the demand has somewhat diminished. Yet among those recruited the past year, the destitution has been greater than in former years. This is especially true of our colored soldiers, who have been very generally supplied by our agents. The Rev. Mr. Brewster, the Chaplain at Readville, has distributed since December, nearly four thousand copies to those who had left that post A statement of his very efficient and for the war. useful labors will be found in an appendix to this Report.

While the renewed efforts of the Society have been expended upon the soldiers and sailors, other parts of our appropriate work have not been forgotten. To destitute families and individuals, one thousand and fifty copies of the Scriptures have been given; to Sabbath Schools, two thousand; to City Missions, twelve hundred and seventy-three; to public institutions and public houses, one thousand and ten, and to the destitute in other States, six hundred and twenty.

The income of the Society from all sources, including a balance on hand at the beginning of the year, of \$2,022.96, has been \$30,519.48. The amount of donations, legacies and annual subscriptions has been \$10,562.34. Dividends

on stocks and interest, \$1,194.50; sales of books, \$16,728.68. The donations exceed those of the previous year by \$823.87, while the legacies are less by \$1,940, showing a falling off in legacies and donations of \$1,115.66. The whole amount sent from Massachusetts to the Treasury of the American Bible Society, as donations and for books, is \$39,116.02, exceeding by \$4,646.36 the amount raised the previous year.

The expenditures have been, for Bibles and Testaments, \$21,927.69; for the Depository, the General and Depository Agents, and Assistant, paper, printing, rent, &c., \$3,752.77. Donations to the parent Society, \$3,245.95.

The American Bible Society, with which our own is connected as an auxiliary, has enjoyed a year of marked prosperity, both in its receipts and its issues; \$560,000 have been paid into its Treasury, of which sum more than \$254,000 were from donations and lagacies. It has printed during the year, one million five hundred and ninety-two thousand copies of the Scriptures. More than half of these have been circulated among our soldiers and sailors, and the freedmen coming within our lines. It has been enabled to prosecute its work over the whole country, knowing no war nor peace. Two hundred and eighteen thousand Bibles and Testaments it has sent as a donation to the rebel States, and has sold forty thousand there, the books having been forwarded by

flag of truce, with the full permission of our Government. Between thirty and forty laborers are now employed in different parts of the world, and its foreign operations are rapidly extending. The Society, both in the extent and the beneficent influence of its labors, is a worthy exponent of the Protestantism of this nation, which here, merging its differences, goes forth with the Gospel to all nations. In the hopeful aspects of the cause at home and abroad, and in the ever widening fields which invite our culture, are we furnished with motives to increased zeal and diligence in the prosecution of our appropriate work.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Fifty-fifth Annual Meeting of the BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS was held at 15 Cornhill, Boston, on Monday, May 23, 1864, at 9 o'clock, A. M.; in the absence of the President, Hon. Albert Fearing in the chair.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and approved.

The Annual Report of the Treasurer was read and accepted.

The Fifty-fifth Annual Report of the Trustees was presented and accepted; and it was

Voted, That the same be read at the public meeting this afternoon.

The Officers of the Society were elected for the ensuing year.

The Society then adjourned to attend the public services of the Fifty-fifth Anniversary, at the Central Church, Winter Street, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment, the President, Hon. Samuel H. Walley, in the chair.

The Scriptures were read and prayer offered by Rev. A. H. Plumb, of Chelsea.

The President delivered an introductory address, as follows:

We meet once more to speak of the Bible—a glorious theme—a comprehensive term. In the words of Chillingworth, "The Bible, and the Bible alone, is the religion of Protestants." Never was there a period in our history, when its instructions and its consolations were more needed than the present.

Never was there a time, when the obligation was more imperative upon those who are possessed of this precious gift of God, to impart of what they have freely received, to those who are deprived of the knowledge and comfort which its pages afford; and we may add, with some degree of satisfaction, never was there a year in which so much has been done in obedience to our Saviour's last command, to "Preach the Gospel to every creature," as during the one just closed.

It is refreshing to recount what has been accomplished in obedience to this command in our own and other lands.

The British and Foreign Bible Society has published the word of God in the languages of seven hundred millions of the human family—making the translations into one hundred and sixty-four languages—and reducing twenty-three unwritten languages to writing.

The receipts of the American Bible Society for the past year, have been \$560,578.60—and they have issued during the year, 1,500,578 volumes. During the period of the present war, (three years,) they have issued in our own country, 3,778,119 volumes. This number exceeds the issues of the first twenty-eight years of the Society, 1816–1844, by 193,859 volumes.

The American Bible Society has also made grants to the seceded States, during the past year, of 217,824 volumes, which have been forwarded by permission of our Government, under a flag of truce. One hundred thousand of these were furnished to supply the destitution of the Word of God in North Carolina—and were gratefully received. Would that the precepts of this blessed volume might cause the scales to fall from the blinded eyes of these deluded people. Then might it prove "a lamp unto their feet, and a light unto their paths," to guide them back to loyalty and peace.

The Report of your Trustees will inform you what has been done by our own Society during the past year, in its appropriate field, in addition to what we have contributed to swell the means of the National Society. We strove to do more but failed to accomplish our effort.

When the cargo of the prize steamer "Minna," was sold in this port, we sought to purchase the Bibles and Testaments, forming part of the cargo which had been printed for the use of the Confederate States, in England. We failed to obtain all, but having purchased a part, we applied to the appropriate department at Washington, for permission to forward the same to the rebels. Our application was referred by the War Department to Major General Butler, and on the 30th of March we were notified of the following reply being received from General Butler. "Five hundred Bibles have been lately sent, which are in all probability those referred to by Mr. Walley. I am not in favor of sending any more." The Bibles referred to were probably a portion of those donated by the American Society, as we had not been permitted to send ours—and as the closing remark in General Butler's report was so explicit, we abandoned our intention.

Had we been successful, we should have been performing the same good office for our rebellious neighbors in transmitting English Bibles for their use in the distribution of God's Word, and in their acknowledged need of its illumination—which Holland performed for us in the war of the Revolution, in furnishing us with English Bibles to the number of thirty thousand—when we were regarded by England as rebels, and when there were only about four millions of Bibles in the world.

Let us record our gratitude for what we have been permitted to do in scattering the leaves of the tree which are for the healing of the nations. Let us record our vow of reconsecration of ourselves and our substance, to the work of making known the truth of life to our perishing fellow men, and let us hope that by the blessed influence of its truths, war may cease and peace be restored to our distracted country—peace in righteousness that may abide; and the blessings of Almighty God henceforward rest upon a happy, prosperous, free and united Republic.

The Fifty-fifth Annual Report of the Trustees was read by Rev. Daniel Butler, Recording Secretary.

Hon. A. H. Bullock, of Worcester, was then introduced, and spoke as follows:

Mr. President,—For the invitation to bear a part in these proceedings, I am undoubtedly indebted to the custom, which prevails in these anniversary exercises, of inviting always one

layman to speak in behalf of a cause which awakens universal interest. For surely we are all interested in the circulation of Surrounded as I am by these excellent clergymen the Bible. you will not expect me to speak of its dignity and grandeur as the only history of redemption and the guide of every man to immortal hope. And, if I were to remark upon the comprehensive signification in which we are accustomed to connect the holy Scriptures with our social and civil relations, I should find nothing new to say, and could only allude to the general acknowledgment, that without this elementary source of all realized good institutions, the highest destiny of States would be unattainable,—that the general intelligence, happiness, and prosperity would be only accidental, not enduring,—that personal security, for which legislatures have been at their work for ages, would be without certainty and without guaranty. Christianity alone gives an indisputable and perpetual sanction to human laws, and is the first and final adjuster of communities and of nationalities.

And yet, Sir, I think we have peculiar reasons for appreciating the sacred writings in their relations with our public affairs. In this respect our position historically is essentially different from that of any of the leading nations. Our popular existence, unlike that of any other people on the globe, is directly and manifestly one of the fruits of the Christian religion. to some of the countries of the Eastern world, their history is so ancient, so mythical, so varied,—running back to a period far prior to the advent of our Lord, and after the promulgation of his gospel for long ages overwhelming it with neglect and abuse, or perhaps more frequently exhibiting only its enforced public recognition and respect,—that we cannot easily trace an unbroken connection of religious ideas with the sweep of the historical progress. If, for example, we take up the history of Great Britain, we commence with Cæsar, and not with Christ,with the landing of the military conqueror, and not the pilgrim of conscience; and we pass on over the centuries of darkness, and turmoil, and cruelty, before we can observe the principles of our religion transpiring and becoming recognized among the laws and policies of the country. Quite different is our own case. We started on our career as a Christian community;

our nation began as a Christian commission; the first Puritan that landed was an armed agent of the Bible. Our government, our liberty, was laid upon that foundation. At all times in the conduct of our public affairs, though some men preach differently, it has been the tribunal of conscience and of morals to which the hopes and fears of government and the people have been usually and sternly directed. A philosophical traveler, [De Tocqueville,] observing this, has made special report to the old world, that our founders brought here what he terms a democratic and republican religion,—and that from the beginning politics and religion contracted an alliance which could not be easily dissolved and never has been dissolved. "The Americans, [he says], combine the notions of Christianity and liberty so intimately in their minds, that it is impossible to make them conceive the one without the other." He was right. The equality of all men before God,—derived from no other authority than the Bible,—that is our origin, our history, our peace, our war, our all. A gentleman looking at the Greek department of the library of the late Mr. Choate, said to him: "Seven editions of the Testament, and not a copy of the Constitution; " "Ah, my friend"—was the reply—" you forget that the Constitution of my country is in every one of them all." And such is the truth of the illustration. The Bible societies of America are engaged in circulating the Constitution and the Laws; they are promulgating popular rights and popular enfranchisement; they are marking out and opening for each generation the pathway of national life, and they secure and adorn it with the certainties of general prosperity and happiness. this is better understood where the people have not enjoyed the freedom of the Divine Word. I have seen it stated, that when the British and Foreign Bible Society published its first twentyfive thousand copies, designed for Wales, the Welch population turned out and drew them by hand through the city,—a sort of public rejoicing. It is no wonder that they treated the event as a new and unwonted coronation. A new element of popular liberty, comfort, and hope had suddenly come to arouse them to a higher and better life on the earth. But I pray you to consider how exalted is our advantage in the comparison,—having a vast fabric of institutions, new and old, and

a whole body of laws, from the first to the last, through the whole of which the ideas of the Divine Word blend in control and harmony with human wisdom,—not a day having passed over our heads since the beginning in which any other than the Christian system has been thought of for a moment,—the growth, the development, the progress of the state making the system dearer to the hearts of the people as providence unfolds and time advances.

Mr. President, our Society is holding its anniversary in one of the most remarkable epochs of time. The events which are passing before our eyes are too suggestive to be omitted among these exercises. I have said that our origin, our history, our destiny is Christian. But I also bear in mind that history and providence are full of apparent contradictions and conflicts. The Bible was brought to our shores under the early flag of settlement; but there was another landing beside that. Not one civilization, but two, erected their banner and pitched their tent in this westward course of empire. While I speak of this nation as in a large and original measure having a scriptural and spiritual foundation, I do not ask you to renounce the fact that another theory, another policy, another system,—which under one form or another has existed since the days of the ancient theocracy, and which only within the last fifty years has been placed effectually under the ban of Christian legislation, came hither simultaneously with the Puritan and established its jurisdiction. Of course I refer to African slavery. was at first only an incident among the propitious omens of American colonization; how for a century and more it was tolerated, not much thought of; how gradually and progressively, even after the adoption of the Constitution of the Republic, and chiefly as one of the supposed conveniences of our political economy, it greatly increased the number of its subjects; how afterwards, sometimes quietly, sometimes violently, at all times surely, and too often with our own acquiescence, it extended its area, until at length it attempted to appropriate the characteristics of our nationality as its own, and finally looked forward to the speedily approaching day of its absolute supremacy over this western continent;—all this is too truthful, too well understood, and too painful to require further remarks of explanation.

All this is what we have seen, and what we cannot deny. And now, Sir, if I were an infidel, I might put to you the boastful interrogatory—"How do you reconcile the existence of this condition of things with the already announced statement of the establishment on this continent of the American people as a people of the Bible?" And then you, as a Christian man, with the candid and just manner which has marked you through life in this community, would quite probably answer me—"Be patient, be faithful, be enduring in all the analogies of our holy religion, and the divine Author of the Bible will conduct you to a satisfactory and consolatory answer."

At this point, therefore, it is, that I have the honor to remind those who are engaged in the extension of original and ultimate truth, that under the economy of providence and revelation to cherish faith and patience in human reform is one of the most elementary and difficult duties of our mortal lot. To exorcise error from the complications of the institutions and experience of centuries,—to deliver a government from traditional abuses and bring it back to the rudiments of the Gospel with which it began a career of promise,—this is a work not of haste, or of rash expectation. Time has proved a slow but sure reformer. All the analogies of natural and revealed religion bid us rest on that foundation of hope. Nay, indeed, the very history of the Bible itself becomes in this matter our monitor and our guide. This sacred book was not dropped in bulk from the skies into Line upon line, here a little and there a little,—at the intervals of ages apart,—was it written,—in progressive series,—originally only tracts, divinely inspired tracts, which have since been gathered and bound together in the holy unity of the volume. Then, think how long it has been in reaching Survey the course of time over which it has struggled on its solemn errand,—traveling ages ago from the East to the West,—from the Hebrew to the Greek,—from the Greek into the language of the Latin race,—from the Latin through all the confusion of tongues in the dark and middle period,—until it emerged into the accessible and intelligible light of modern literature, in which we hold it, and treasure it, and circulate it this day. After the divine book had been written, thousands of years were required to elapse before it should come to our

hands in the form under which we now distribute it;—and shall we expect its work to be accomplished in a year or a day Such is not the way of the divine Author and Arbiter of the destinies of mankind; such has not been the fashion of his revelation and administration. It might have pleased the supreme mind to prevent the inception of oppression,—but such was not its pleasure. Wrong and oppression having fastened hold upon this world, even then He might have been pleased by a single blast from the skies to soften the hearts of men and to remove all the curses by a decree or a word,—but such was not the great will. In the ways of that sublime discipline which belongs to God alone, connecting the fruitions around the throne with the labors of earth, conflict, struggle, WAR ITSELI does become one of the watchwords of the Bible. How the nations have waited, and the statesmen have died in grief, and imperial maps have been rolled up and unfurled, before some o these great consummations have been permitted to transpire I cannot forget that long after our religion had blazed in ful effulgence over Great Britain, even within the memory of some now living and present, the British slave-trade continued to swell her sails; and it was not till nearly a quarter of a century had elapsed after the first efforts of Wilberforce to abolish it that the Lord put it into the head of the ministry, into the great heart of Fox, to obliterate the stain from the nationa escutcheon. I do not forget that after that same Christian statesman had turned his devotion to the policy and duty o emancipation, it pleased the Almighty to permit nearly anothe quarter of a century to pass over his head, and himself, half in joy and half in sorrow, almost to descend to the tomb, before Buxton, who had caught his mantle, succeeded in the accomplishment of this great work of humanity.

The same conflict has been transferred to our own country. The careful forethought and just expectations of the fathers of this government, in relation to this gigantic evil, had been sadly thwarted; and the ways we ourselves have since chosen, have not conducted us to the desired result. The iniquity has proved master of our powers of design and action for it removal. It appears to have been one among the counsels of the coun

God, that, while we should become only reluctant agencies in his hand, the partizans and supporters of this continental system of wrong should by their own hands excavate the pit for its overthrow and its burial. Eloquence, remonstrance, denunciation were, years since, exhausted in vain upon the colossal difficulty. The cloud of war at length arose in the horizon; and even then our hands were raised to avert it. War at last burst over the country; and even then, again, we were not permitted to make it as yet a war of emancipation. Many of us were disappointed that it was not made such at the outset; but I apprehend that it might have signally failed if our wish had been so early granted. Higher counsel ruled our fate. It was reserved that we should possess our souls in patience, and walk the bloody round of alternate success and defeat, until the hearts of this people should be brought more closely together, until they should behold the same exigency with the same eye; we were to be made ready, under the discipline of providence, for the Proclamation of Freedom. And now it is that the heavens over us become luminous,—now it is that this, which we adopted as an extremity, and which we call a military necessity, is breaking upon our understanding as the purpose and the opportunity of God. Now in the fullness of time the destiny of an empire that was founded upon the Bible is about to be fulfilled. Great and good men are bending forward from the heights of history, the just made perfect are gazing from the empyrean, to behold here in America at last THE EQUALITY OF ALL MEN BEFORE GOD. The beneficent Scriptures are coming to their result. To that event we are at last surely and rapidly approaching. The civil, the military edict has gone forth; but it is after all only the adjudication of the Holy Bible. The President of the United States, the leaders of all the armies, are acting at length in full view of the inspiring benediction happily expressed by him whom I humbly call the greatest of modern preachers, [Robert Hall]: "He who breaks the fetters of slavery, and delivers a race from thraldom, forms, in my opinion, the noblest comment on the great law of love, whilst he distributes the greatest blessing which man can receive from man." And, Mr. President, as I

believe this to be a conclusion of the measures of peace and of war which the divine word has forced upon us, all unwilling as we appear to have been, so I believe that its consummation cannot be kept back by rebel men in the North or in the South. No wayward casuist, of your denomination or of mine, can arrest the majestic, the divine progress; for it is a progress taking its source in the revealed and inspired word of the Almighty, flowing on over all the fields of humanity among the centuries, and now daily drifting towards peace and freedom after the war in America. If this work be of God, then no pragmatic disciple can delay or defeat it. Nor man, nor conceit, can stand in the way.

And only one word more. While the events of war are trailing in alternate hope and gloom around us, the Bible has a visible value it never had before. It has such a value to us at home, where funeral trains sweep along the streets, and so many a church-yard hillock is bursting with graves. Nothing else can solace the bruised household, cheer the widowed heart, soothe the orphaned soul, or lighten the heavy-treading steps of bending and bereaved age. The sacrifice is so costly, the relief must be priceless.

But what of the transcendent value of the holy volume on the field of war! It is war that makes us too familiar with the tidings of death; if we saw more of it, and heard less, perhaps it were otherwise. We have heard and read of killed and wounded for three long years, until these reports come to us as only statistics of war. The truth is, we are giving play chiefly to the dramatic parts of our nature; and these are wearing out, while the sickle of battle is reaping its sorrowful harvest. lieve me, we must awake, summon reflection, change our habitudes of thought and life,—or the memory of the neglected living and dead, the thick-coming clouds of public disaster, and the undiscernible judgments of heaven will combine in our retribution. We must have thoughtfulness, day and night, for those who linger in hospitals and die by hundreds that we and our cause may live,—or we and our cause will perish together. Saddest, tenderest, grandest scene of human occurrence—the patient soldier, away from his kindred and his home, dying, with

no witness save the omniscient eye, and no shroud save the sweet dews of heaven!—

"On some fond breast the parting soul relies, Some pious drops the closing eye requires."

Gracious God, can these things be,—the young men of New England languish and die on distant fields,—our prosperities, gaieties, frivolities swell on to their flood,—and no thought, no physician, no solace, no Bible for them? Oh, no; the Sanitary Commission, the Christian Commission, the Bible Commission are already on the way to their relief and their salvation.

"Not wholly lost, O Father, is this evil world of ours;
Upward, through its blood and ashes, spring afresh the Eden flowers;
From its smoking hell of battle, Love and Pity send their prayer,
And still thy white-winged angels hover dimly in our air!"

Rev. Lachlin Taylor, of Toronto, Canada, made the concluding address.

The services were then closed with the Doxology and Benediction.

CONSTITUTION.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

SEC. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Brown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

- SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal, which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.
- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.

Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

BY-LAWS.

-010-

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

ARTICLE I.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, fourteen Vice Presidents, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice Presidents, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice Presidents and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least there newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository.

ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

- Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository, annually, the value of one dollar in Bibles and Testaments.
 - N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

BY THE PAYMENT OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

Abbe, Rev. Frederick R., Abington. Abbe, Mrs. Frederick R. Aborn, John G., South Reading. Abbott, Rev. Jacob J., Uzbridge. Adams, Elizabeth W., Derry, N. H. *Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. Adams, Nehemiah, D. D., Boston. Adams, Stephen W., Medway. Adkins, Miss Mary J., South Deer field. *Albree, John, Boston. Albro, John A., D. D., Cambridge. Albro, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Albro, Miss Annie E. Alden, Almira S. C., Fozbero'. Alden, Russell, Campello. Alden, Miss Sarah B., Rendolph. Alden, Miss Susan, Aldrich, Mrs. Mary B., Westboro'. Allen, Rev. Nathaniel G., Somerville. Allen, Richard H., Braintres. Ames, James S., Haverhill. Andrews, Artemas F., Fitchburg. Andrews, C. L., Boston. Andrews, W. T. Andrews, Thomas E., Holliston. *Appleton, Samuel, Boston. *Appleton, William, " Atwood, Mrs. Abby, Chatham. Atwood, John W., North Bridgewater. Babcock, Mrs. Nancy, Besten. Babcock, Rev. William R., Jameica Plain. Babeon, Miss Maria R., Gloucester. Bacon, Jacob, Bacon, Rev. James M., Essez. Bacon, Joseph N., Newton. Baker, Mrs. Eleanor J. W., Derchester. Baker, Francis, South Danvers. Ball, Miss Elizabeth, Concord. Barber, Mrs. Eliza A.. South Danvers. Barber, Martin, Sherbern. Barber, Rev. William M., South Danvers. Bardwell, Lieut. Charles S., Whately. Barker, Hiram, Brighton. Barnard, William F., Marlbere.' *Barnes, William, Barnes, Zilpah, Henniker, N. H.

Barrett, Nathan H., Concord. Barrett, Miss Rebecca M. Bartlett, Thomas, Boston. Bassett, Henry, Newton. Batchelder, John M., Holliston. Batchelor, Stophen F., Whitinsville. *Bayley, Robert, Newburyport. Beal, Alexander, Boston. Beal, Mrs. Louisa, Cokasset. Beane, Rev. Samuel, Norton. Beebe, James M., Boston. Beebe, Mrs. James M. 66 Beebe, Charles E. Boebe, Francis L. 66 Beebe, Edward P. " Beebe, Emily B. Beebe, Mary L. Beecher, Rev. William H., No. Brooksid. Belknap, Miss Martha M., Framingham. Benson, Frederick A., Newten. Blanchard, Miss Frances C., Greton. Bliss, Rev. Charles R., South Reading. Bliss, Mrs. Charles R. Blodgett, Benjamin C., Newten. Blodgett, Simeon, South Deerfield. Blood, Cyrus, Winchester. Blood, Lyman, Groton. Bodwell, Rev. Joseph C., Woburn. Bodwell, Mrs. Catharine, *Bond, George, Boston. Bowers, Luke K. Bowers, Mrs. Cara H. Brackett, James, Quincy. Brackett, Lemuel, *Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgetown. Brant, Aaron, South Reading. Breed, Rev. William J., Southboro'. Brower, Cyrus, Dorchester. Brewer, Mrs. C. F., Boston. Brewer, John R. Brickett, Franklin, Haverhill. Briggs, Rev. William T., Princeton. Briggs, Mrs. Abby L. *Bromfield, Elizabeth, Beston. *Brooks, Peter C. " Brooks, Peter C.

Brown, Mrs Harriet L., Boston. Brown, Joseph, Groton. Brown, Mrs. Mary O., Haverkill. Bucklin, Simon S., Breokline. Bulkley, Mrs. Catharine F., Groten. Burge, Lorenzo, Boston. Burr, Charles C., Auburndale. Burrage, J. C., Boston. Burrill, Henry, Jr., East Abington. Bush, Henry J., Westfield. Butler, Rev. Daniel, Boston. Butler, Mrs. Jane D. Cady, Rev. Daniel R., West Cambridge. Cady, Mrs. Harriet S. Capen, Mrs. Charles, Framinghem. Capron, William C., Uzbridge. Carleton, George H., Haverhill. Carpenter, Catharine E., Fezboro'. Carpenter, Daniel, " Carpenter, Edson, Carter, Edward, Andover. Cary, George C., N. Bridgewater. Cary, Mrs. Mary D., Fozboro'. Chandler, Miss Frances E., Andover. Chapin, Caleb T., Whitinsville. Chase, Ann Maria, Haverkill. Chase, George S. Chase, Hezekiah, Lynn. Chase, Robert, Haverkill. Child, Miss Anna G., Springfield. Child, Miss Lucy, Thatford, Vt. Childs, Carlos, Henniker, N. H. Childs, Horace, Choate, David, M. D., Salem, *Clap, James, Dorchester. Clap, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Clapp, James B. Clapp, John C. Clark, Rev. Edward L., No. Bridgewater. Clark, Elbridge, East Medway. Clark, George, Concord. Clark, James G., Andover. Clark, John L., Andover. Clark, Jonathan, Winchester. Clark, Rev. Joseph B., Yarmouth. Clark, Mrs. Miranda D., Boston. Clark, Miss Nelly, Sherborn. Clark, Oliver R., Winchester. Clark, Rev. P. K., South Described. Clark, Rufus W., D. D., Albany, N. Y. Clarke, Mrs. Adeliza H., Medway. Clarke, Rev. Dorus, Waltham. Clarke, Francis, Haverhill. Clarke, George E., Falmouth. Clary, Mrs. S. S., Wareham. Cleaveland, Waldo, South Deerfield. Clifford, Wyatt B., Chatham. Cobb, Andrew B., Newton Corner.

Cobb, Jacob, Abington. Cobb, Rev. L. H., Andever. *Cobb, Richard, Boston. *Codman, Charles R. Codman, Mrs. Catharine, " Colby, Albert, Colby, Barak, Henniker, N. H. Cole, Asa, West Medway. Cole, Miss Ella A., Medway. Conn, Horace, Weburn. Cook, Asa, Newton. Coolidge, Rev. Amos H., Leicester. Coolidge, Joseph, Boston. Coolidge, Lowell, Sherborn. Coolidge, Mrs. Catharine, " Copp, Mrs. Fedora F., Chelsea. Cousens, Boulah F., Newton Centre. Cowdry, Robert, Winchester. Craste, Mrs. Sarah P., Newton. Crosby, James, Boston. Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca, Cruikshanks, George, St. Johnsbury, Ft. Curtis, Abner, East Abington. Cushman, George H., North Bridgewater. Cutter, Stephen, Winckester. Cutter, Stephen H. Dakin, Thomas L., Sudbury. Damon, Albert P., Reading. *Dana, Sumuel, Boston. Dana, Charles B., Brooklins. Dane, John H. Daniell, Mrs. Eliza B., E. Medway. Daniell, Otis, Boston. Davis, Alvah M., Haverkill. Davis, James, Boston. Davis, John, Methuen. Davis, Lydia K., Tyngsborough. Davis, Rev. Perley B., Sharon. Davis, Thaddeus Uriah, Westford. Day, Robert L., Newton. Dickson, Oliver, Somerville. Dickson, Mrs. Sarah E. " Denham, Rev. George, Chelsea. Denham, Mrs. Clara D. " Dickerman, Rev. Lysander, Weymouth. Dix, Mrs. Elijah, Boston. Dix, Samuel F., Newton. Dodd, Rev. Stephen G., East Randelph. Dodge, Rev. John, Harvard. Dodge, Mrs. Ann S. Dodge, Mrs. J. M. C., Andover. Doggett, Rev. Thos., Niagara Falls, N. Y. Doggett, Mrs. Frances L. " Doggett, William, *Dorr, John, Beston. *Dow, Josiah, " *Dowee, Edward, Deckem.

Dowse, Elizabeth R. L., Sherbern.

Dudley, P. W., Whitinsville. Dudley, Mrs. Suzah A. Dunham, Charles H., Winchester. Duniap, Sumper, South Downsiel. Dunton, Hiram P., Spencey. Dunn, Edward H., Beston. Dotoh, Elizabeth M. " Dyer, Rev. E. Porter, Maghem. Eagur, William, Bestest. Easter, Mrs. Nancy, Sterlers. Bames, Warren, Wilmington. Enstburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, D. D., Besten-Eaton, Mrs. Ann E., South Rending. Eaton, Chan, Francischen. Euton, Miss Martha W., Fitchburg. Eaten, William, Besten-Enten, William J , Westbere's Eddy, Joshue, East Middlebore'. Rawards, Frederick B., N. Chalangierd. 44 Edwards, Maria F. Edwards, Nathan B. 44 Edwards, Nathan F. Rówards, Bibbyi R. 86 Edwards, Victor E. Eldred, Lorenzo, Felmouth. *Eliot, Samuel, Besten. *Eliot, Samuel A. " Elle, Mre Elizabeth W., Oberlin, O. *Elwell, Robert, Boston. Reservon, Jacob, Jr., Mathuen. Emerson, Mrs. Jacob, Emerson, R. V. C., Muster. Emery, Mrs. Harriot, North Waymouth. Emery, Mrs. Mary, Chathem. Emery, Mrs. Sarah M., Newburgpert. Everett, Edward, Boston. Fairbanks, Stophen, *Parnaworth, Mrs. Abel, Groton. Parr, Alba A., Methusu. Farwell Stephen T Cambridge. Pay, Cyrus, Wastboro'. Fay, Josiah C., Hopkinton. Payerweather, Miss 8. W Westlere's Pearing, Albert Berten. Feering, Mrs. Albert, Pinhur, Mine Eliun, Med may. Picher, Melton M., Medway Fillage. Pitch, John A., Hephinton. Fitz, Daniel, D. D., Ipowick. Fitz, Mrs. Hanceh B. D. " Pitz, Daniel, Jr. Pitz, Daviel P. Flanders, Joseph, Haverhill. Flotcher, Ephraim S., Whitinsville. Pletcher, Mrs. L. C. Pietcher, Mrs. Hannah C., Manchester. Fletcher, Isaac W., Stow.

Fletcher, Namey B. "

Fletcher, Rov. James F., Danuera. Flotcher, Mrs. Lydia M. Pletcher, Stillman, Winehester. Flotcher, William, Flian, Mrs. Paulous, Floyd, Mint Mary J., South Dangers. Ford, Rov. Gourge, East Falmouth. "Ford, Thomas A., Besten. Ford, Thomas A., North Bridgemater. Pord, Mrs. Elisa C. Peedick, Charles, Greton. Foedick, Frederick, * Posdick, Ress, Feedick, Samuel W. " Poedick, Miss Mary, " Foster, Rev. Auron, E. Charlemant, Poster, Miss Eliza C., Rowley. Foster, Mrs. Mary, Painer. *Francis, Ebenezer Beston. French, Mrs. Harrist S., Tounten. Frothingham, A. T., Combridge. Furbor, Rev. Daniel L., Neuton. Purbet, Mrs. Maria B. Galo, Bov. Wakefield, Rockport. *Gule, Mrs. Wakefield, Gale, Justin Edwards, Gallot, Nathan, Groton. Garrette, Stav. Edmand Y., Millbury. Garrette, Mrs. Franzonia W. Garrette, Flora Gertrade, Garrette, Mary Spring, *Gibbs, Mrs. Mary, Besten. Gilbert, Benjamin R. " Glice, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Reckport. Gilos, Miss Mury Olive, Gloucester. Gilman, Miss Rebecca L., Bradford. Goodell, H. Augustus, Whitinspelle. Gordon, Solomon J., Besten. Gordon, Mrs. Rebecca, " Gordon, Jennuie, Gott, J. B., Reckyert. *Grant, Moses, Besten. *Gray, Francis C. " *Gray, Henry, Gray, Horace, Gray, John C. Greeley, Rev. Edward S., Methaga. Greeley, Mrs. Edward H. Green, Ray, J. S. C., Newton. Greenwood, Mrs. Sally K., Sherbern. *Grew, John, Boston. Grover, Mrs. Carolino, Fozbero'. Hale, E. J. M., Haverkill. Hale, Mrs. E. J. M. 44 Hall, Mrs. Joseph F., Groten. *Hammatt, Mrs. Mary, Beston Hammood, Rev. W. B., Marrisville, N. Y Hammond, Mrs. Louise M.

Harding, Mrs. Temperance, Chatham. Hardwick, Thomas, Quincy. Hartwell, Lottie E., Greton. Hardy, Truman, Manchester. Hastings, Alice, Newtonville. Hastings, Hollis, Framingham. *Hatch, Benjamin, East Falmouth. Hawes, Cyathia, Wrentham. Hawes, Julia, Hayward, Elias, Braintres. Hayward, Paul, Ashby. Hazel, Mrs. Sarah L., Gloucester. Headley, Rev. P. C., Boston. Healy, Rev. Joseph W., Walpele. Heard, John, Ipswick. Hersey, Jacob, Fozbero'. Hewins, Mrs. Annette P. " Hewins, Levi R. *Higginson, Stephen, Jr., Boston. Hildreth, Mrs. Mary R., Groton. *Hill, Henry, Boston. Hill, Jotham, Wobern. Hitchcock, George M., Brimfield. Hobson, Miss Priscilla, Rowley. Holland, Miss Sarah E., Besten. Holm, Jacob P., Manchester. *Holmes, Abiel, D. D., Cambridge. Holmes, Miss Elizabeth A., Belvidere, Ill. Holmes, Mrs. Fanny D., South Plymouth. Homer, Charles W., Cambridge. Hooker, George B., Sherbern. Hooper, Robert, Boston. Hoppin, Rev. James M., New Haven, Ct. Hosmer, Miss Eliza, Concord. Hovey, George O., Besten. How, Frederick, Danvers. *How, James, Boston. *llowe, John, Howes, Collins, Chatkam. Howard, Cary, North Bridgewater. Howard, David, Hoyt, Mrs. Mariu, Framingham. Hubbard, Mrs. Charles A., Concerd. Hulbert, Charles, Boston. Humphrey, Daniel, North Weymouth. Hurd, Francis P., M. D., South Reading. Hutchins, Caroline M, Westford. Hutchins, Maria J. " Hutchins, William E. *Hyslop, David, Boston. Jackman, Mrs. Susan M., Medway. Jackson, James, Boston. *Jackson, Patrick T. " Jeffries, Miss Catharine Amory, Besten. Jephson, Miss C. R., Brooklins. Johnson, Mrs. Emma E., Bradford. Johnson, Peter R., Hellisten. Johnson, Miss Rebecca, North Andover.

Johnson, Mrs. S. W., Fermington, N. H. Jones, Augustus T., North Bridgeweler. Jones, Henry R., Hollisten. Joy, Mrs. Abiguil, Besten. Keep, N. C. Keith, Adelbert F., Campelle. Keith, Albert, " Keith, Arza B. *Keith, Charles, North Bridgewater. Keith, Ziba C., Campelle. Kendall, Mrs. Abel M., Besten. Kendall, William, Whitinsville. Kendrick, John, Haverhill. Kendrick, Mrs. Lydia F., Chatham. Kerr, Robert W., Fozbore'. Kerr, Jane K. Kettelle, Jacob Q., Besten. Kimball, Benjamin, 2d, Haverkill. Kimball, Rev. Caleb, Medway. Kimball, David, Bradford. Kimball, Mrs. Sylvia, Westboro'. Kingman, Miss Eliza, Beston. Kingman, Miss Sarah, Kingsbury, Nathaniel, Kittredge, Rev. A. E., San Francisco, Cal. *Knowles, Rev. James D., Boston. Knox, Mrs. 8., Rock Island, Ill. Lambert, Miss Elizabeth G., Rewley. Lambert, Rev. Thomas R., Charlestown. Lamson, Edwin, Beston. Lamson, Mrs. Edwin, " Lamson, Helen, Lane, Anthony, Lancaster. Lane, Rev. John W., Whately. Lane, Richmond J., East Abington. Langworthy, Rev. Isaac P., Cheleca. Larkin, Lydia E., Chester, N. H. Lasell, Josiah, Auburndale. Laurie, Inglis, Owetonne, Minnesote. *Lawrence, Amos, Boston. Lawrence, Rev. Amos E., Lancaster. Lawrence, Asa, Groton. *Lawrence, Mrs. M. A. Lawrence, Curtis, Lawrence, Mrs. Curtis, Lawrence, Miss Susan P., Groten. Lawrence, Mrs. Nancy T., Wilton, Me. Leach, Simeon, Stoughton. Leavitt, Mrs. Elizabeth G., Roston. Lee, Rev. Samuel H., North Bridgewater. Leeds, Benjamin, Brookline. Leeds, Benjamin, Jr. Loeds, Mrs. Anne B. Leeds, Miss Anno G. " Lees, Mrs. Samuel, Concord. Lefavour, Issachar, Beverly. Leland, Calvin, Jr., Natick. Leonard, Eliza, Fezbere'.

Leonard, Jumes M., Bridgewater. Lewis, Reuben, Grates. Lincoln, Bay. Calvin, Hingham. Lincoln, F. W., Jr., Besten. Lincoln, Nosh, Little, Rev. Elbridge G., No. Middlebere's. Little, Walde F., Newton Centra. Little, William A. Livermore, George, Cambridge. *Locke, Ephraim, Boston. Logenia, Rav. Elibu, Littleton. Lord, John A., South Danvers. Lord, Louisa C., Munchester. Loying, Miss Hannah W., Newton Centre. *Lowell, Charles, D. D., Besten. Lumb, William, Lyman, Rav. George, Satten. Multby, Rev. Ernetus, Thunton. blunning, Otlo, Littleton. Manning, Edward W Welson. Marble, Mrs. Mary E Grafton. Marrett, Lorenzo, East Cambridge. Marsh, Elizabeth C., Haverhill. March, E. J., Groton. Marsh, Miss Julia M., Haverbill. Maynard, Rav Jushue L., East Douglas. "Maraton, William, Boston. *McKean, William, BloKnen, Philena, Andoper. "McLean, Mrs. Ann. Beeten. McLeag Rev. John K., Franinghom. Meunt, Rav. John O., Rezbury. Megna, Mrs. John O. Messenger, Miss Eliza, Fitchburg. Mills, Bov. Charles L., Wrentham. Mills, Mrs. Rebecca B. Minot, William, Besten. Minot, William, Jr. " Mixtor, Mrs. Fanny L., Besten. Mixtor, Mrs. Mary R., Hardwick. Mixter, Mrs. S. E., Rock Island, Ill. Mont, Aufun, Groten. Moon, Rev George, Ochland, Cal. Moore, Rufus, Groton. Mordough, Rev. John H , Pertland, Me. Marley, Ber. Sordis B., Williametown. Marrison, Miss Nancy T., Rowley. Morse, Miss Abby P., Emperia, Kansas. Morae, Charles N , Fexbere'. Morse, Mas Emily A., Bradford. Morse, Henry, Natick. Morse, Rofus W., Methusa. Mosely, Edward S., Newburgport, Mosman, Walter B., Chicopes. Manger, Rev. Theodore T., Heverkill. Murray, Rev. James O., Cambridgeport. Mucray, Mrs. Julia R.

Neson, Rev. Elies, Exeter, N. H.

Nelson, Jonathan H., Shreushury. *Newell, Moorgomery, Besten. Newhall, Lucy Acc, Store. Nowman, Miss Barah A., Ipowich. Nichols, James R., Heverhill. Nichols, Moses, Nightingule, Rev. Crawford, Greten. Norcross, Josiah, South Reading. Noverous, Mrs. Joseph, " Noune, Daniel, West Medway. Nourse, Susan M., Bolton. Noyee, Alva, North Bridgewater. Odlin, Bonjamin, Ezeter, N. R. Odlin, Mrs. E. T. Ordway, Auron I., New York city. Ordway, Miss Charlotte, Bradford. Osborne, George F., South Dansers. Orgood, H. B., Whitimroille. Packard, Rev. D. Temple, Semeraille. Packard, Edward C., North Bridgeouter. Packard, B. Edwards, Packard, Zibean, Abington. Paige, George R., New Salem. Paine, Mrs. Sarah M., Holdon. *Pulue, Mise Barah C. Palmer, Rev. Charles Ray, Seless. *Palmer, Rev. Stephen, Naddem. Palmer, Squire, South Destrield. Park, John C., Besten. *Perker, John, 44 Parker, Mrs. Sarah, *Parkman, Francis, D. D. *Parkman, Semuel, Parkman, Mrs. Sarah, Parmenter, Mrs. E. J. G., Petersham. *Parsons, Gotham, Besten. *Parsons, William, Partridge, Joseph, Hellisten. Patrick, Rev. Heury J., West Newton. Patrick, Mrs. Martha L. Pattee, Willard, Fosbere'. Patterson, David IL, Methuen. Newton. Paul, Henry, Paul, Luther, 46 Paul Luther, Jr. Paul, Miss Harriet, "Paul, Miss Mary, Payson, Miss Stran, Forbere'. Pease, George W., Salem. Pearson, Muse Hannah J., Lowell. Peckhain, Hubbard, Peterskem. Peicce, Ray, Bradford K., Harlem, M. Y. Porkins, E. E., North Middlehore'. Porkies, Jairge H., North Middlebore'. Perkins, James, Beston. *Perkins, James, Jr. 🔑 *Perkins, Thomas H. Perley, Jacob, South Denvere.

Perry, Miss Catharine H., Sherborn. *Peters, Edward D., Boston. Pettee, Miss Eliza J., Fozboro'. Pettee, Samuel Gardner, Stoughton. Phillips, Alonzo P., South Danvers. *Phillips, Jonathan, Boston. Phillips, Mrs. Sally, *Phillips, William, Pickard, Rev. Daniel W., Groveland. Pickering, H. W., Boston. Pierce, Rev. Charles H., Millbury. Pierpont, Rev. John, Medford. Pike, Rev. John, Rowley. Plumb, Rev. Albert H., Chelsea. Plumb, Joseph Dart, Plumer, Mrs. Martha H., Rowley. Plummer, Israel, Whitinsville. Pond, Almira W., South Malden. Pond, John P., Boston. Pond, Mrs. Nancy, Medway. Pond, William E., Wrentham. Poor, Joseph, South Danvers. Poor, Nathan H. " Porter, Samuel S., Winchester. Pratt, Cornelius, North Weymouth. Pratt, Galen, North Bridgewater. Pratt, Galen E. Pratt, Norton, Braintres. Pratt, Phebe, Sherborn. Pratt, Zebulon, North Middlebore'. *Prescott, William, Boston. *Prince, Rev. J. M., Georgetown. Prince, Mrs. Sarah B., Bridgewater. Proctor, Mrs. Lucy A., Gloucester. Proctor, Thorndike, South Danvers. Quincy, Thomas D., Dorchester. Quincy, Mrs. J. C. Rankin, Mrs. Mary B., Lowell. Read, Miss Martha, East Abington. Reed, Miss Caroline G., Haverhill. Reed, Horace, South Abington. Rice, Mrs. Agnes L., Boston. Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth C., Lawrence. Rico, Mrs. Henry A. Rice, Miss M. Augusta, Westboro'. Rich, Rev. Alonzo B., Beverly. Rich, Rev. A. Judson, Dorchester. Richards, Mrs. A. M., Litchfield, Ct. Richards, James F., Campello. Richardson, Benjamin P., Boston. Richardson, Luther, Winchester. Richardson, Miss Sarah E., Concord. Richardson, Sumner, Winchester. *Ritchie, Andrew, Jr., Boston. Robbins, Andrew, Groton. Robbins, Chandler, D. D., Beston. *Robbins, Edward H. Roberts, Rev. Jacob, East Medicay.

Roberts, Mrs. Mary A., East Medicay. Robinson, Charles W., Auburndale. Robinson, H. W., North Bridgewater. Robinson, Rev. Reuben T., Winchester. Rockwood, John, Groton. Rockwood, Miss Polly S., Askland. *Rogers, George, Boston. *Rogers, Rev. William M. Rogers, Shubael G. Russell, Sarah J., Framingham. Ryder, Marietta, Chatham. Sanford, Mrs. Adeline D., Medway Village. Safford, Rev. George B., Burlington, Vt. *Salisbury, Samuel, Boston. Sargent, Lucius M. Sargent, Samuel G., Methuen. Sawtell, Mrs. Ephraim, Groton. Sawyer, Seth C., E. Randolph. *Scudder, Charles, Boston. Scudder, Mrs. Sarah L. " Seaver, A. W., Northboro'. Seeley, Rev. Raymond H., Haverkill. Seeley, Mrs. Fanny B. Selfridge, Thomas O., Boston. Shattuck, Andrew, Groton. Shaw, Mrs. Hannah, Boston. Sheldon, Rev. Luther II., Westbere'. Sheldon, Mrs. Sarah H. Shiverick, Miss Maria L., Campelle. *Sigourney, Andrew, Beston. Sigourney, Henry, Skillings, David N., Winchester. *Slack, Ruggles, Boston. Slafter, Rev. Edmund F., Boston Small, Samuel A., Millbury. Small, Mrs. Sumner, Newton Centre. Smith, Albert W., Brookline. Smith, Mrs. Lucy Jane, Smith, Rev. Edward P., Pepperell. Smith, Mrs. Hattie, Gloucester. Smith, Rev. Matson M., Bridgeport, Ct. Smith, Mrs. Matson M. Smith, Norman, Groton. Smith, Richard, South Danvers. Smith, Mrs. Charlotte, " *Smith, Samuel, Boston. Smith, Mrs. Sarah, Andover. Smith, Warren N., Whitinsville. Swist, Miss Lottie H., Andever. Snow, Mrs. Caroline, Newton Corner. Snow, Mrs. Mark, Chatham. Soule, Henry M., South Abington. Southgate, Rev. Robert, Ipswick. Southgate, Mrs. Mary Frances, Ipswick. Spooner, W. B., Boston. Spring, Mrs. Adela C., Whitinsville. Stacy, Albert, Concord. Stebbins, Rev. Milan C., Lancester.

Stevess, Norman C., Besten. Stevens, Mrs. E. M. Stovens, Samuel, Gioucester. Stoddard, Lewis T Breeklins. Stone, Andrew L., D. D., Besten. Stone, Mrs. Matilda F Stone, Martha A., Neuton Centre. Storre, Eunice C. Braistree. Storre, Richard S., D. D. 😬 Stowell, Cyrus A., South Despiteld. Strong, Rev. J. C., St. Charles, Minns Strong, Mrs. J. C., Sumner, Mrs. H. H., Feshers'. Swaney, Mrs. Persone A., Lynn. Swatt, Samuel W., Boston. Swift, Mine Lottie H., Andrew. Tapley, Gilbert, Despera. Tappan, John, Beston. Taylor, Mrs. Malanes, Winehester. Tools, Roy. Albert K., Wilton. Toole, Mrs. Corneliu C. " Temple, Mark M., Reading. Tonney, Mrs. Mary P., Winchester. Terry, Ray James P., Buth Waymouth. Thacher, Mrs. Anna B., Hyde Park. Thucker, Miss Calista C., Stilebere'. Thacher, John, Thacher, Mrs. Susan C. Thacher, William T. Thucker, Suma H., Pertiand, Me. "Thutcher, Mary Ludiow. Middlebore". Thuyer, Amasa, Braintres. Thayer, E. F. E. Thayer, Ira, Thayer, Mrs. Lills, " Thayor, Bev. J. Henry, Salem. Thuyer, Mrs. Martha C. " Theyer, Oliver, Thayer, Mrs. Jane, Besten. Thayer, Robert H., New York City. Thompson, Everett A., West Ameebury. Thompson, Samuel A. Thompson, Mrs. Asse Eliza, " Thompson, George R., North Bridgenoter. Thurston, Rav. Bichard B., Weltham. Tolman, Rev. Richard, Temkebury. Tolman, Rev. Samuel H., Wilmington. Torrey, Miss Elisabeth L., South Wegmouth. Torray, James, North Waymouth. Track, Mrs. A. H., Manchester. Trowbridge, Mrs. Aca, Brighton. Tucker, Rev. Elijab W., Lebensa, Ct. Tucker, Mrs. Hannah W. Tucker, Jesse, Mitton. Tucker, Nathan, Tucker, Mrs. Nathon, " Tucker, William, Derchester. Tecker, William W., Besten.

Tufte, Charles, Andones. Tuttle, Miss Sarah, " Tuttle, Thomas S., Littleton. Twichell, John M., Pitchburg. Tyler, Jerome W., Besten. Underhill, Rav. John W., N. Smheret. Upton, Moses T Salem. Vose, William H., Fitchburg. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. Walcott, William, Danvers. Water, Bragine, Rauf Randelph. Wales, Miss Mary Ann. Boston. Walker, Miss Frances A., Hoperbill. Wulker, John S., East Mednay. Walker, Mrs. John S. " Walker, Moses, Baverhill. Walker, Nathanial, at Walker, Robert G., Berton. Walker, William M., East Abington. *Walley, Samuel S., Beston. Walley, Samuel H. Ward, Arteman, Ward, Salam T., Winskepter. Warner, William, South Deerfield. Warren, George W., Boston, Warner, John, Newton. Warren, Mrs. Diantha A., Lynn. Warren, Mrs. Maria, Grafton. *Warren, Nebemiah, Stop. Warren, Francis W. 4 Warren, Jones, Warren, Luciada, Warren, William A., Winchester. Watking, Miss Abby A., Glousseter. Weeks, Mrs. L. Careline, New Salem, Welch, John, Besten. Weld, James, Wolls, Mrs. Martha D., Morthboro'. Wellman, Rav. Joshua W., Nouten. Wondoll, Mrs. Catharine, Besten. Wheeler, Miss Abby F., Concord. Whiteomb, Lewis, East Randelph. *Whiteomb, Rouben, Hernerd. *Whitcomb, Roubes, Jr. Whitcomb, Mrs. Abby F. Whiteomb, Mrs. Louisa D. Whiteomb, Miss Mary M. White, Cornelius, South Randolph. *White, James, Besten. White, Josiah, Psterekem. White, Mrs. Mary C., Easten. White, Newton, East Randelph, Whitin, Charles P., Whitiasville. Whitin, Mrs. Catharine H. * Whiten, James F. Whitin, Mrs. Petience H. " Whitin, Paul, Whitin, Mrs. Sarah J.

Whitin, Mrs. Sarah R., Whitinsville. Whitman, Charles, Lowell. Whitmarsh, Mary, South Abington. Whitney, Charles H., Fitchburg. Whitney, Dora S., South Groton. Whitney, Helen J., Stow. Whitney, Israel, Boston. Whitney, Mrs. Permelia V., Peterskam. Whitney, Richard D., Nachua, N. H. Whitney, Mrs. Susanna, Rutland. *Wigglesworth, Thomas, Besten. Wilbur, Joseph, Tauxten. Wild, Daniel, Besten. Wilder, Hattie, Stow. Willcox, Rev. William H., Reading. Williams, Rev. Edward F., Whitinsville. Williams, S. H., Fozboro'. Wilson, Rev. Thomas, Stoughton. Winslow, Pelham, East Abington.

Winthrop, Robert C., Besten. *Winthrop, Thomas L. " Withington, Otis, Breskline. Wolcott, William, South Danvers. Woodbury, Simon J., Sutton. Wood, Mrs. Abijah, Westboro'. Wood, Elizabeth C., Fozbore'. Wood, Mrs. E. S., Whitinsville. Wood, Mrs. Samuel F., Chelmaford. Wood, Mrs. Susan, Groton. Woods, Miss Abbie Wheeler, Malden. Woods, Joseph Wheeler, Besten. Woods, Samuel H. Woodward, Ebenezer, Newton. Woodward, Miss Emily, Newton U. Falls. *Worthington, William, Beston. Wyman, Charles, Lancaster. Wyman, William G., Fitchburg.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

Receipts from May 1, 1863, to May 1, 1864.

SUFFOLK COUNTY.

Boston, Society of Rev. Dr.	Adams, Essex Street,	•	•	\$ 145	03
" Rev. Mr.	Alden, Broadway,		•	97	22
" Rev. Mes	ers. Blagden and Ma	nning,	Old		
South		•	•	108	22
" Dr. Kirk	, Mount Vernon,		•	97	53
" Dr. Robb	oins, Second Church,		•	108	00
" Ur. Ston	e, Park Street, .		•	186	60
" Tremont Street Met	hodist Episcopal Chu	rch, .	•	25	17
" Mrs. Nancy Atkins	<u> </u>	•	•	3	00
" Mrs. M. C. Dimick,			•	10	00
" Mrs. Benjamin R. G	Hilbert, (İ L. M.) .		•	20	00
_	(1 bal. for 1 L. M. A. B	s. s.) .	•	5	00
" North Street Missio	•		•	1	00
" A friend, \$25; do.	\$3; do. \$2; do. \$2	2; do.	\$ 2;		
_	. м. а. в. s.) \$30; a p				
5 0.				65	KΛ
50c.;	• • • •	•	•	UU	UU
Chelsea, Walnut Street Metl	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	ch,	•	33	
Chelsea, Walnut Street Metl	hodist Episcopal Chur Methodist Episcopal		•	33	
Chelsea, Walnut Street Metl	- -		•	33	33
Chelsea, Walnut Street Meth "Mount Bellingham	Methodist Episcopal		•	33	33 00
Chelsea, Walnut Street Meth "Mount Bellingham	- -		•	33 13	33 00
Chelsea, Walnut Street Meth "Mount Bellingham	Methodist Episcopal (•	33 13	33 00 60
Chelsea, Walnut Street Meth "Mount Bellingham	Methodist Episcopal (SSEX COUNTY.	Church,	•	33 13 \$ 918 \$ 31	33 00 60
Chelsea, Walnut Street Meth Mount Bellingham Est Andover, Chapel Congregati Old South Church	Methodist Episcopal (SSEX COUNTY.	Church,	•	33 13 \$ 918 \$ 31 78	33 00 60 50
Chelsea, Walnut Street Meth "Mount Bellingham Est Andover, Chapel Congregati "Old South Church "North Trinitarian	Methodist Episcopal (SSEX COUNTY. Son,	Church,) h, (1 L.	x.)	33 13 \$ 918 \$ 31 78 30	33 00 60 50 55
Chelsea, Walnut Street Meth "Mount Bellingham Est Andover, Chapel Congregati "Old South Church "North Trinitarian	Methodist Episcopal (SSEX COUNTY. Son,	Church,) h, (1 L.	x.)	33 13 \$ 918 \$ 31 78 30 33	33 00 60 50 55 00
Chelsea, Walnut Street Meth "Mount Bellingham Est Andover, Chapel Congregati "Old South Church "North Trinitarian "Free Church, \$13	Methodist Episcopal (SSEX COUNTY. Son, and Society, (3 L. M.) Congregational Church 60; John Smith, (1 L. h and Society,	Church,) h, (1 L.	x.)	33 13 \$ 918 \$ 31 78 30 33 30	33 00 60 50 55 00 60
Chelsea, Walnut Street Meth "Mount Bellingham Est Andover, Chapel Congregati "Old South Church "North Trinitarian "Free Church, \$13 Beverly, Dane Street Church	Methodist Episcopal (SSEX COUNTY. Son, and Society, (3 L. M.) Congregational Church 60; John Smith, (1 L. h and Society, nurch and Society,	Church,) h, (1 L.	x.)	33 13 \$ 918 \$ 31 78 30 33 30 65	33 00 60 50 55 00 60 87
Chelsea, Walnut Street Meth "Mount Bellingham Est Andover, Chapel Congregati "Old South Church "North Trinitarian "Free Church, \$13 Beverly, Dane Street Church Bradford, Congregational Church Danvers, Maple Street Church	Methodist Episcopal (SSEX COUNTY. Son, and Society, (3 L. M.) Congregational Church 60; John Smith, (1 L. h and Society, nurch and Society,	Church,) h, (1 L.	x.)	33 13 \$ 918 \$ 31 78 30 33 30 65 16	33 00 60 50 55 00 60 87 75
Chelsea, Walnut Street Meth "Mount Bellingham Est Andover, Chapel Congregati "Old South Church "North Trinitarian "Free Church, \$13 Beverly, Dane Street Church Bradford, Congregational Church Danvers, Maple Street Church	Methodist Episcopal (SSEX COUNTY. Son, and Society, (3 L. M.) Congregational Churc 60; John Smith, (1 L. h and Society, nurch and Society, ch and Society,	Church, h, (1 L m.) \$2	x.)	33 13 \$ 918 \$ 31 78 30 33 30 65 16 26	33 00 60 50 55 00 60 87 75 03
Chelsea, Walnut Street Meth "Mount Bellingham Est Andover, Chapel Congregati "Old South Church "North Trinitarian "Free Church, \$13 Beverly, Dane Street Church Bradford, Congregational Church Bradford, Congregational Church Branvers, Maple Street Church Essex, First Church,	Methodist Episcopal (SSEX COUNTY. Son, and Society, (3 L. M.) Congregational Churc 60; John Smith, (1 L. h and Society, nurch and Society, ch and Society, Church and Society,	Church, h, (1 L. . m.) \$2	x.)	33 13 \$ 918 \$ 31 78 30 33 30 65 16 26 46	33 00 60 50 55 00 60 87 75 03 58
Chelsea, Walnut Street Meth "Mount Bellingham Est Andover, Chapel Congregati "Old South Church "North Trinitarian "Free Church, \$13 Beverly, Dane Street Church Bradford, Congregational Church Bradford, Congregational Church Essex, First Church, Georgetown, Congregational Gloucester, Evangelical Church	Methodist Episcopal (SSEX COUNTY. Son, and Society, (3 L. M.) Congregational Churc 60; John Smith, (1 L. h and Society, nurch and Society, ch and Society, Church and Society,	Church, h, (1 L. . m.) \$2	x.)	33 13 \$ 918 \$ 31 78 30 33 30 65 16 26 46 57	33 00 60 50 55 00 60 87 75 03 58 66

Groveland, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 13	
Haverhill, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	52	50
" North Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.		
and 2 L. M. A. B. S.)	103	17
" Mrs. Martha A. Mitchell, deceased, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
" C. M. Kimball, for A. B. s	5	00
Ipswich, South Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		
\$35 73; Mrs. Ammi Smith, \$2;	37	73
" First Congregational Church and Society,	35	85
Lynn, First Church,	24	55
" South Street Methodist Episcopal Church,		25
" Central Congregational Church and Society		45
Manchester, Society of Rev. F. V. Tenney,		66
Methuen, First Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)		13
Newbury, First Congregational Church and Society, (5 L. M.)		10
	3	
Dynam, conficencement control and control,	F 4	50
Newburyport, Society of Rev. Mr. Fisk,		81
" Society of Rev. Mr. Campbell,	39	42
" Whitefield Congregational Church and So-		
ciety, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	31	19
Rockport, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	20	00
Rowley, Congregational Church and Society,	41	00
Salem, Crombie Street Church,	82	02
"South Church,	72	64
" Tabernacle Church,	83	40
South Danvers, Congregational Church and Society,	23	20
Topsfield, Congregational Church and Society,	23	05
Wenham, Congregational Church and Society,		61
, came, congregation came and access,		
	1,340	62
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.	·	
	.	
Auburndale, Congregational Church and Society,	-	92
Billerica, A friend,		00
Brighton, Evan. Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		07
Cambridge, East, First Evangelical Congregational Church, .	26	25
Charlestown, Winthrop Church,	76	63
" A friend,	2	00
Concord, Union Bible Society,	165	00
Dunstable, Congregational Church and Society,	7	45
Framingham, Hollis Evangelical Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	43	24
Groton, Union Orthodox Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	38	85
Holliston, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	43	35
Hopkinton, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		00
Littleton, Congregational Church and Society,		50
Lowell, Appleton Street Church,		20
" High Street Church,		00
	41	VV

Lowell, Emily and Elizabeth Rogers, (1 L. M. A. B. s.) .	\$ 30	00
Medford, Sabbath School in the Society of Rev. Mr. Marvin,		
Bibles for soldiers,	5	50
Newton, A friend, (2 L. M.)	40	00
Pepperell, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, .	6	35
Reading, Old South Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. s.) .	30	42
Sherborn, Female Reading and Benevolent Society, (1 L. M.)	20	00
Shirley, Congregational Church and Society,	2	23
Somerville, First Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,	24	61
South Reading, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. x	.) 43	47
Townsend, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	11	66
Waltham, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society, .	18	00
West Cambridge, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,	140	07
Westford, Union Congregational Church and Society,	4	00
" Mrs. Lydia K. Davis, (1 L. H.)	25	00
Winchester, Congregational Church and Society, (4 L. M.) .	122	75
	1,164	52
WORCESTER COUNTY.		
Auburn, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 14	00
Boylston, Congregational Church and Society,	10	00
Douglas, East, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	21	14
Fitchburg, Congregational Church and Society, (4 L. M. A. B. S.)	126	02
Lancaster, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,		
(1 L. M.)	20	00
Leicester, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	30	00
Lunenburg, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,	6	40
Millbury, First Church, (1 L. M.)	20	00
" Second Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	29	30
Northbridge, Whitinsville, Cong. Church and Society, (7 L. M.)	317	50
" Rockville,	8	82
Spencer, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	24	00
Westboro', Evan. Congregational Church and Society,	51	36
Worcester, Central Church,	59	17
Winchendon, First Congregational Church and Society, .	2	73
	\$ 740	44
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY.		
Amherst, East, Congregational Church and Society,	10	00
" First Parish,		28
" on Bible account, \$39 24.		~~
North Hadley, Congregational Church and Society,	22	00
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\$ 52	28

HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.

Mr. James Brewer, Springfield, Tr.

DII. JAMES BREWER, Springheta, 17.		
Chicopee, Third Cong. Church and Society, (2 L. M. A. B. s.)	\$ 60	00
" Sarah Jennings, (1 L. m. in part,)	7	00
" Ethan Ely, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
Longmeadow, (1 L. M. A. B. s. in part,)	12	00
Palmer, Mr. William Foster, deceased, (1 L. M.)	30	00
Springfield, South Church, (3 L. M. A. B. s.)	90	00
" Christ Church, to circulate the Bible in the Army,	36	32
" R. R. Eastman, (bal. 1 L. M. A. B. S.)	20	00
Westfield, N. T. Learned, (for A. B. s.)	30	00
Other Donations,	901	59
On Bible Account, \$143 01.		—
*	1,216	91
FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.		
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.		
Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society,	•	50
Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,	17	
Conway, Congregational Church and Society,	84	
" the late Miss Esther Wing,		00
Gill, Congregational Church and Society,		32
Greenfield, First Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	32	
" • Second Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)		60
Shelburne, Gent. Association, \$25 65; ladies' do. \$22 56;	48	
South Deerfield, First Congregational Church and Society,		•
(bal. 3 L. M.) . ·		00
South Deerfield, Monument Church,		00
Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society,		44
Warwick, Trinitarian Society,		25
Whately, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. x.)	20	00
	\$ 340	33
Deduct amount credited to Bible account, \$75.93; Ex-	\$ 010	00
penses, \$ 12 00;	87	93
	\$ 252	40
NORFOLK COUNTY.		
Braintree, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	\$ 30	00
Brookline, Harvard Church,	-	00
" A friend,		00
Cohasset, Second Congregational Church and Society,		10
Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society,		00
Dorchester, Second Congregational Church and Society,	200	
Dorchester, Second Congregational Church and Society,	400	AL

40 52

	_	
Foxboro', Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	\$ 50	14
Franklin, Congregational Church and Society,	20	50
Medfield, A friend,	1	00
Medway, First Congregational Church and Society,		14
Randolph, East, Winthrop Church and Society, (1 L. M.)		
		55
Roxbury, Eliot Church and Society,	138	83
" on Bible account, \$15 00.		
Walpole, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,	15	31
Weymouth, South, Union Church and Society,	36	50
Wrentham, Julia and Jemima Hawes, (1 L. M.)		00
BRISTOL COUNTY.	\$ 767	80
	4.0	
Attleboro', East Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 19	
Taunton, Winslow Church and Society,	19	45
"Sarah D. Cook,	1	00
PLYMOUTH COUNTY.	\$ 39	66
Abington, South, Miss Abigail Keith, (1 L. M. in part,)	\$ 10	00
" East, Church and Society of Rev. H. D. Walker,	22	
•	44	
East Bridgewater, A friend,	1	00
East and West Bridgewater, Union Church and Society, .	15	00
Hingham, First Church, (1 L. M.)	51	00
Kingston, Evangelical Congregational Sabbath School,	4	00
Middleboro', First Congregational Church and Society, .	. 23	38
North Bridgewater, First Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. x.)	30	
Porter Evan. Church and Society, (3 L. M.)		
Plymouth, South Cong. Church and Society, (1. L M.)	22	00
BARNSTABLE COUNTY.	\$ 254	42
Mr. John Munrob, Tr.		
Barnstable, Centreville, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 10	75
" Coutuitport, \$5 10; Capt. A. Childs, \$10 00;	15	10
Chatham, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	20	
Falmouth, First Congregational Church and Society,	25	
" North, Rev. L. Wheaton, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	
1101th, 10cv. D. Wheaton, (1 D. A. R. B. 6.)		
	\$ 101	82
MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS.	•	
Brattleboro', Vt., A. Van Doorn,	\$ 5	ሰብ
	•	
Derry, N. H., Miss Abby Choate, (bal. 1 L. M. A. B. S.)	20	
Exeter, N. H., A friend,		00
" " J. W. M		00
Portland, Me., Susan B. Thacher, (1 L. M.)	20	00
CONTRACTOR STATE AND A STATE OF THE STATE OF	20	
Theuord, Vt., Miss Lucy Child, (Dal. I L. X.)	_	00
Thetford, Vt., Miss Lucy Child, (bal. 1 L. M.)	_	00

New England Conference of	M. E	. Chi	arch,	•	•	•	•	319	13
Jacksonville, Ill., the late M	r. an	d M	rs. J.	Laur	ie, (1	L. M.	:		
1 L. M. A. B. S.) .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	50	00
A friend,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	00
								\$ 652	13
C	OLL	ECT	ons	•				•	
By the Rev. E. F. SLAFTI	r, A	gent	of the	Ame	rican	Bible	Se	cisty.	
Church of the Messiah, Bosto		•			•		•	\$ 1	00
St. Peter's Church, Salem,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	26	10
St. Matthew's Church, Bosto	n.	•	•	•	•	•	•		00
Grace Church, Lawrence,	•	•	•	•		•	•	20	
Grace Church, Newton Corne	er.	•	•	•	•	•	•		30
G., Newton Corner, .		•	•	•		•	•	50	
St. John's Church, Jamaica P	lain.	•	•	•	_	_	•	85	
St. Paul's Church, Boston,	,		•	•	•	•	•	440	
Emmanuel Church, Boston,		•	•	•	_	•	•	468	
Trinity Church, Boston,			-	•		•	•	508	
St. Paul's Church, Dedham,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		00
St. Paul's Church, Brookline		•	•	•	•	•	•	165	
St. James' Church, Roxbury,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	162	
St. Thomas' Church, Taunton		•	•	•	•	•	•		00
Episcopal Church, Fitchburg,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		35
All Saints' Church, Worceste		•	•	•	•	•	•		00
Christ Church, Plymouth,	 ,	•	•	•	•	•	•		
	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		50
St. Thomas' Chapel, Somervil	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		25
St. Paul's Church, Newburyp	юrt,	•	•	•	•	•	•		00
Christ Church, Waltham,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		00
St. John's Church, Framingh	am,	•	•	•	•	•	•		60
Grace Church, Boston,	•		•	•	•	•	•		75
St. Peter's Church, Cambridge	gepor	t,	•	•	•	•	•	19	58
							•	2,284	84
	LEG	ACI	ES.						
Boston, Gilman S. Low, \$500), les	s U.	S. Ta	x, \$2	5,	•	•	\$ 475	00
Haverhill, Lydia Appleton,	100 ;	less	v.s	. Tax	, \$5;		•	95	00
								\$ 570	00
Annual subscriptions, .				•	•			371	00
Interest and dividends, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	1,194	
Returned for books donated,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	00
Sales,	-	•	•	•	-	-	•	16,728	
~~~~	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	-0,140	40

Pecuniary remittances and letters relating to the business of the Depository, and orders for Books, should be addressed to S. T. FARWELL, Agent, No. 15 Cornhill, Boston.

## APPENDIX.

Camp Meigs, Readville, May 13, 1864.

Rev. D. BUTLER,
Cor. Sec. Mass. Bible Society.

### DEAR BROTHER,-

Though you have not signified to me that any formal report of what has been done at this post, in the work of placing the Holy Scriptures in the hands of the new recruits here, is required on the part of the Society which you represent, it seems to me that you and your associates will be interested in some more full and definite statements than I have hitherto made in relation to it.

I have indeed reported progress to you, and to Mr. Farwell, from time to time, but it has been verbally; and now, as nearly all the men have gone to the field, and are doing so well the work of soldiers there, it may doubtless be supposed that the patrons of the Society may like to know what was done for them during the winter and spring in this particular field of labor.

Since I reported for duty as Chaplain of this post, in December last, there have been recruited at this camp and sent to the seat of war the following organizations.

The 2d Regiment of Heavy Artillery, numbering about 1,000 men. Three Batteries of Light Artillery, the 11th, 14th and 16th, numbering together about 468 men.

One company of Heavy Artillery, the 13th unattached, numbering about 150 men.

The 1st and 4th Regiments of Massachusetts Cavalry, about 1,200. The 5th Regiment of Massachusetts Cavalry (colored) about 1,000 men.

The 56th, 58th and 59th Regiments of Massachusetts Infantry, of which all but the 58th were full, numbering together about 2,500 men.

The whole number sent to the field from this post, all of whom were volunteers, may be set down as about six thousand in all.

Besides these there have been detachments of the 57th from Worcester, and of re-enlisted men from the 26th Regiment now in Louisiana, who were not neglected in the distribution of the Scriptures.

There have also been here since the departure of the above named, thirteen companies of militia, to be equipped for short terms of duty within the limits of the State.

During the months of January and February, I was very busy in the erection of the chapel, and in getting together the means necessary to pay for it; but on Sunday, and at other times, though we had no place of meeting except the Barracks, I distributed Testaments and religious reading of various kinds to the men, and held frequent meetings with them in their quarters. Later in the winter, however, having more time to devote to my appropriate work, and having acquired a more accurate knowledge of the soldiers' wants, and of the proper method of meeting them, I have endeavored to systematize my efforts in such a way as to do the work more thoroughly. I have been surprised to find that a large portion of the recruits, the white as well as the colored men, were entirely destitute of the Scriptures in any form, while, with very few exceptions, they express an earnest desire to receive them.

As the Bible is almost too large to be carried by them to the field, I did not deem it advisable to attempt to procure many copies of it, but rather the New Testament, the four Gospels bound separately, the Book of Psalms, and the Proverbs, all of which I procured from you, and in large numbers, as you are aware.

A very liberal supply of soldiers' and sailors' Hymn Books and Almanacs has been furnished me by the Boston Young Men's Christian Association, and the Tract Societies have aided me also with their publications.

When I entered on the work, I attempted to do it alone; but it soon increased to such an extent, that I was glad to avail myself of the assistance of such good men in the camp, as were able and willing to help me in it.

My method has been this: While the Regiments were under marching orders, I have been through their quarters, usually just before their departure, with my assistants, and put into the hands of the men, the New Testament, or such portion of it as they might wish for, with a Hymn Book, Almanac, and any other publication which I might have, and which seemed adapted to do them good.

I have also, as far as practicable, made it a point to hold a farewell meeting with the men on the evening before they left us.

Some of these meetings were highly interesting, both to the men and their officers.

This is the method I have pursued, both with the white soldiers and the colored, though the latter, as they were the last to leave, were the last supplied.

You will not understand me as saying that this is the only way these books have been distributed; for a considerable number have been distributed during the whole winter in the camp and in the hospital.

It would perhaps surprise some of the friends of the Massachusetts Bible Society, to be told from what various and distant countries some of the men who were gathered into this camp have come.

Not to speak of those from other lands who have become domiciled here, previous to the war, I have met with natives of Sweden, Denmark, Prussia, Switzerland, Naples, with very many from Great Britain and Ireland, France, and various parts of Germany, who seem to have come here for the express purpose of joining the army.

Even the province of Roumelia, in European Turkey, has furnished its representative in the ranks of the 59th Regiment.

The neighboring British Provinces have sent many recruits, especially Lower Canada and Nova Scotia, and some of the Canadian Indians, even, have enlisted.

It has been very gratifying to witness the satisfaction with which copies of the New Testament, in Swedish, German, French and Italian have been received, principally, however, in German.

I need not mention the number of copies distributed, because you are already aware of the number you have issued, and but few of those received are still on hand.

It heightens the interest with which every Christian must regard this work to remember that the men who were so recently supplied with the Holy Scriptures were immediately sent into the field, and many of them have already shed their blood in the cause of our country and of humanity.

Thanking you and those who are associated with you, for the facilities you have so kindly afforded me, in the work of doing good in this field, I am as ever,

Yours, fraternally,

C. BREWSTER,

Chaplain of the Post.

# ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY

# THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

# MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY,

# AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING

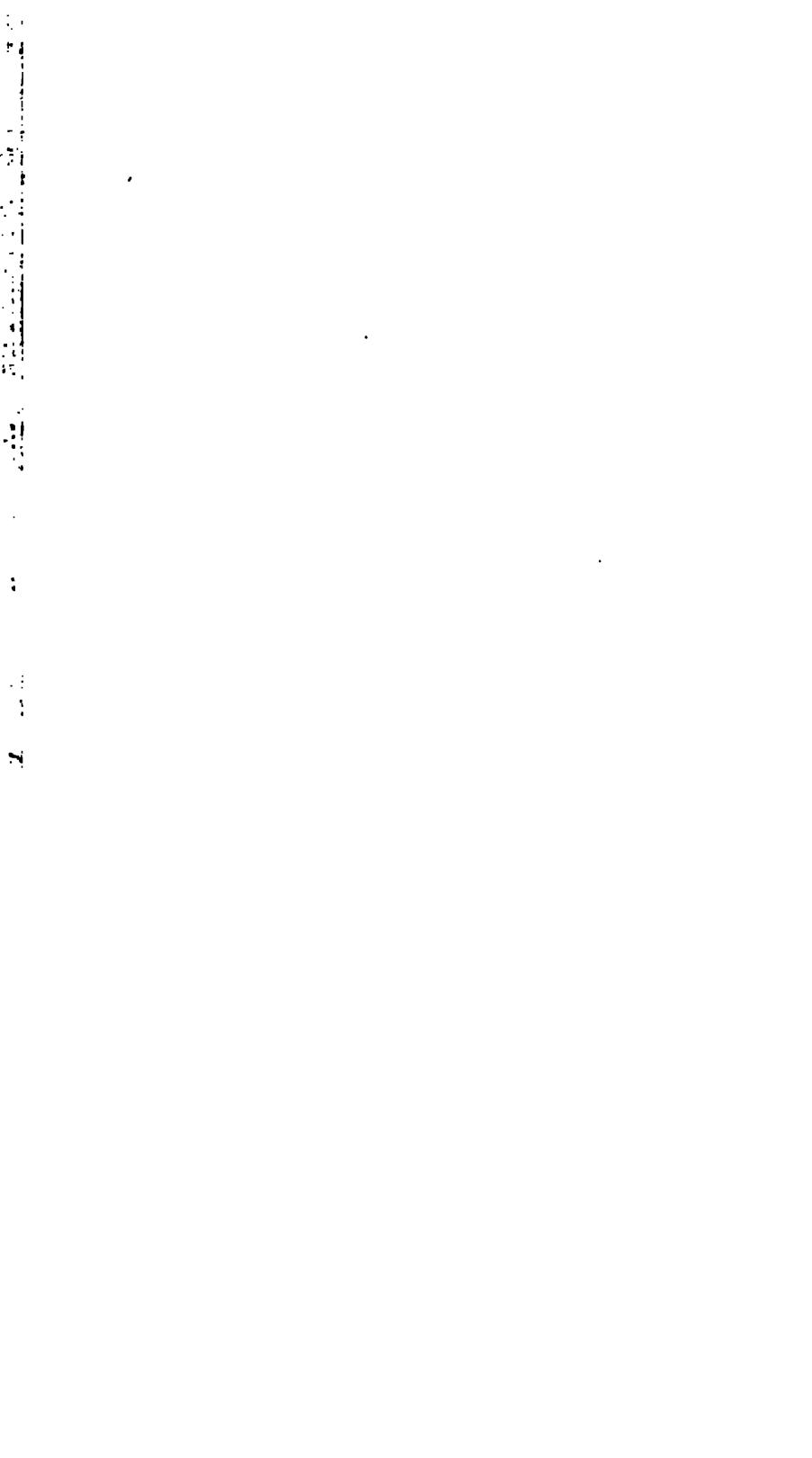
IN BOSTON,

MAY 29, 1865, BEING THEIR FIFTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY.

BOSTON.

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON, 42 CONGRESS STREET.

1865.



### OFFICERS

OF THE

# MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY, 1865-66.

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### HON. SAMUEL H. WALLEY.

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RECORDING SECRETARY.
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Rev. Willard F. Mallalieu,
John Tappan,
Albert Fearing,

Heman Linco
Samuel May,
Jacob Sleepe
Charles T. R
Theophilus I
Stephen Fair
Charles W.
Charles Hen
Francis E. 1

Heman Lincoln,
Samuel May,
Jacob Sleeper,
Charles T. Russell,
Theophilus R. Marvin,
Stephen Fairbanks,
Charles W. Pierce,
Charles Henry Parker,
Francis E. Parker, Esq's.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

TO WHOM APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE MADE FOR BIBLES.
Rev. John O. Means, Albert Fearing, and Charles Henry Parker.

# OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FROM 1809 TO 1865.

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	Rev. John Lathrop, D. D	1862 1862 1862 1862 1862 1862 1862 1862
CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES.		
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	Rev. William E. Channing, D. D. 1809—18   Hon. Jonathan Phillips, 1809—16   Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D. Henry Edwards, Esq	1832—53 1835—49 1840—49 1849—60 1849—62 1853 1860 1863

# ANNUAL REPORT.

A REPORT of the operations of the Massachusetts Bible Society for the past year, will differ in few particulars from those given in previous years. That it has enjoyed its usual prosperity, a brief enumeration of our labors will show.

There were issued from the Depository, from May 1st, 1864, to April 1st, 1865, forty-six thousand eight hundred and ninety volumes. Of this number, thirteen thousand and forty were Bibles; eighteen thousand and seventy-three, Testaments; seven thousand and eighty-five, Testaments with the Psalms; four thousand four hundred and fifty-nine, parts of the Testament; three thousand two hundred and eighty-five of the Book of Psalms; and nine hundred and forty-eight of the Book of Proverbs. Of these, fourteen hundred and sixty-five were in various foreign languages.

There have been issued for gratuitous circulation, two thousand seven hundred and eighty Bibles; seven thousand one hundred and fifty-three Testaments; three thousand and nine Testaments with the Psalms; one thousand eight hundred and seventy

portions of the Testament; twelve hundred and thirteen of the Book of Psalms, and two hundred and thirteen of the Book of Proverbs, making a total of sixteen thousand two hundred and thirty-eight volumes, at a cost of \$4,693.78.

They have been distributed as follows:—To soldiers, six thousand six hundred and eighty-one; to seamen in the naval and merchant service, three thousand seven hundred and twenty-seven; to Sabbath schools, one thousand six hundred and four; to City Missions, twelve hundred and thirty-five; to public Institutions and public Houses, nine hundred and ninety-six; to destitute families and individuals in Massachusetts, fifteen hundred and seventeen; and four hundred and seventy-eight to persons living without the State. Of the whole number given to the army, nine hundred and twentynine were distributed among the soldiers in Camp and Hospital in Readville; eight hundred among recruits at Galloupe's Island; six hundred and fifty were sent to freedmen, and soldiers in hospitals in North Carolina and Virginia, and the remainder mostly to regiments in the field, through the agency of chaplains and officers.

Our gratuitous issues are less by six thousand three hundred and fifty-nine than the number reported last year. This diminution has taken place principally among the soldiers and sailors, and is owing to the fact that fewer men have been recruited in our State, thus creating less demand than heretofore. While however the number of volumes

has been diminished, the expense has been increased, in consequence of the higher price of books,—exceeding that of last year by \$409.39.

The receipts, including a balance of \$1,561.95, have amounted to \$33,004.19; in donations, legacies and annual subscriptions, \$12,869.14,—an increase over the previous year of \$2,306.88; dividends on stock and interest, \$1,973.50; sales of books, \$16,599.60. In addition to the receipts above mentioned, there has been sent from different parts of the State directly to the Treasury of the American Bible Society, the further sum of \$14,920.80; making the whole amount contributed from the State as donations and for books, \$47,924.99, a sum exceeding that given the previous year by \$8,808.97.

The expenditures have been, for Bibles and Testaments, \$21,641.74; for the Depository, the General Depository Agent and Assistant, paper, printing, rent, &c., \$4,360.33; donations to the American Bible Society, \$4,748.74.

While the Trustees have supplied all the destitutions brought to their notice, they have not, as in some other years, engaged in exploring and supplying portions of the State. They have thought it best to postpone for a season this work, because of the enhanced cost of books, and the great demand for the Scriptures occasioned by the war. With the return of peace this work will ere long be renewed.

During the year an event of great interest to the

friends of the Bible has occurred, in the completion of the translation of the Scriptures into Arabic. This great work has been accomplished by American Missionaries in Syria, with such assistants, native and foreign, as could be secured. The result, after sixteen years of labor, is the production of a translation believed to be one of the most perfect ever made into any language. By means of it the Scriptures are brought within the reach of one hundred and twenty millions, who speak this language. The Mohammedans, though taught by the Koran to regard the Bible as the Word of God, have rejected the translations hitherto made as spurious, from their want of conformity to classic Arabic. This objection is removed in the present translation, and they welcome it as furnishing them the Scriptures. The important fact should be stated that Mohammedans can generally read, their religion requiring them to read the Koran.

We can but regard it as an era in the history of the world's progress, when access to the Word of God is made for so large a portion of the human family. The Star has risen again in the East, and her wise men are inquiring of us the way to the world's Deliverer.

The translators and other friends of the Bible in the East, in view of the present and prospective demand for the Scriptures, have requested the American Bible Society to electrotype, as soon as practicable, the Scriptures in the new translation in ten different forms. They are very desirous that American hands, at American cost, should be completed by the same. The Society has engaged to grant the request as far and as fast as the means afforded them will allow.

The facts above stated were communicated to the Society, and at a special meeting of the Trustees an appropriation of \$5,000 was made from the permanent funds in aid of this work. Pending the consideration of this subject, the question was raised whether our charter, by a possible construction, did not restrain the Society from the measure proposed. It was finally decided to apply to the Legislature for such a change in the phraseology of that instrument as should free it from ambiguity, and leave the Society free to act wherever it should seem desirable. It was also deemed advisable to change the corporate name of the Society from the "Bible Society of Massachusetts" to the "Massachusetts Bible Society." By an Act of the Legislature both these changes were secured. A Circular was also printed, calling the attention of the friends of the Bible to the enterprise, and soliciting for it their aid.

The Rev. Mr. Slafter has presented the claims of this charity to the Episcopal Churches within the State, and his appeals have been met, as usual, with a generous response.

Although the results of the year are on the whole gratifying, it cannot be denied that they fall short of what might fairly be expected from the friends

of the truth in this Commonwealth, when we consider their numbers and wealth, and the interest manifested by them in the diffusion of knowledge and religion. While there are many churches and individuals who give regularly and liberally, there are not a few who content themselves with a friendship that brings forth no offering. It is to be regretted that so many churches in professed sympathy with this work, statedly withhold from it their aid. They share in various ways the benefits conferred by the Society upon the community, and are yet never found in the ranks of its supporters. This Society started early in the race. It was one of the first associations formed in the State or the nation for the dissemination of the truth. founders felt and acknowledged the obligation to do good to all men as they had opportunity. In the Report of the Executive Committee for the year 1813, presented by its Chairman, the late Rev. Dr. Channing, after adverting to the undoubted destitution of the Scriptures existing in the State, and the efforts thus called for at home, they add:

"But, even if there were no demand for Bibles among ourselves, there would still remain a wide field for the exertions of this Society. When we look beyond our own country, we behold vast and almost innumerable multitudes, who bear the Christian name, but who want the means of obtaining the sacred volume. True, they are the inhabitants of distant regions; but still they are fellow

Christians, perhaps poor and oppressed, yet many of them able to read the Word of God, and most eager to receive it.

"No sincere Christian can need arguments to convince him that he is bound to contribute to the diffusion of Christianity through the world. This is a religion designed for all nations. Jesus Christ commanded his disciples to preach it to every creature under heaven; and shall we do nothing in aid of this great design? Is the gospel the appointed instrument of God for restoring the world to purity and peace? Has the Son of God died to impart this invaluable blessing to our race? Have holy men of all ages toiled and suffered to diffuse it through the earth, and to perpetuate it to unborn generations; and shall we do nothing to extend the knowledge and power of this salutary truth, of the Word of Eternal life?"

May we not hope that these noble utterances of the Founders will meet a cheerful response from those that succeed them, and be followed by appropriate efforts?

The American Bible Society, with which our own is affiliated, has experienced a year of great prosperity. Its receipts have been greatly in advance of any previous year, amounting to more than six hundred and seventy-seven thousand dollars, (\$677,851.36,) while at home and in foreign lands it has circulated nearly two millions (1,830,564) of

volumes. It has been able to meet the great demands growing out of the war, sending the Scriptures to every camp and fort and hospital; to our armed vessels, to the freedmen, and to myriads of prisoners in our hands. As opportunities have offered, it has freely supplied the destitutions existing in those parts of the nation which have been in armed resistance to the Government, and now that the war is over, is prepared to enter with vigor upon the work which the return of peace imposes.

For four anxious, weary years, with alternate success and failure, we have struggled for national existence. God has at last given us the victory, and peace smiles upon our bleeding land. May our gratitude for this great blessing be evinced by the exhibition of the same zeal, and energy, and self-denial, in our conflicts with evil, that have distinguished us as a people through the progress of the struggle now closed. Rebellion against light and truth and purity, and the true welfare of our race abounds on every hand, and every sentiment of loyalty to truth, to humanity, and to God, urges us to unswerving diligence in our appropriate work.

# ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Fifty-sixth Annual Meeting of the MASSACHUSET BIBLE SOCIETY was held at 15 Cornhill, Boston, on Monda May 29, 1865, at 9 o'clock, A. M. The Hon. Albe Fearing was called to the chair, in the absence of the Predent.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. SAMUEL B. BABCOCK.

The Treasurer, Charles Henry Parker, Esq., present his Annual Report, which was read and accepted.

The Fifty-sixth Annual Report of the Trustees was p sented, and it was

Voted, That the reading of the same be deferred till the pul meeting this afternoon.

The Officers of the Society were elected for the ensui

The Society then adjourned, to attend the public servi of the Fifty-sixth anniversary, at the Central Church, Win Street, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment. In the absence of 1 President, Hon. Samuel H. Walley, the Hon. Charles. T. Russell was called to the chair.

The Scriptures were read and prayer offered by Rev. 'F. MALLALIEU.

The President being prevented, by sudden indisposition, from being present, favored the Society with a copy of the remarks which he had prepared for the meeting, which were as follows:

The anniversary year just closed, will be regarded by all of us as the most eventful year of our lives. We have made history more rapidly than ever before—and ages to come will regard the events of joy and sorrow which have followed each other, in such rapid succession, as little short of miraculous. the period from the investment of Richmond by Grant, to the time when the returned armies, in strength and quietness, were marching by hundreds of thousands in review, before the Commander in Chief at Washington; and what startling occurrences have filled up the interval—the evacuation of Richmond—the surrender of Lee and Johnson, with all the rebel armies east of the Mississippi—and perhaps we might include that of Kirby Smith beyond; and stranger still, history will record, that in the moment of our intensest joy and highest satisfaction, with peace, not made by treaty, but resulting from the downfall of rebellion, our good President was assassinated, as part of a plot deliberately planned for the destruction of our Government, by taking its lifeblood through our civil and military chieftains.

But notwithstanding this disturbance of our joy, there was no cessation of God's watchful care of us, or of our confidence that we should be carried through—our people did not falter;—though Lincoln fell, Johnson was spared; the people rallied round him; our finances were undisturbed, and the whole civilized world ceased from predicting, anticipating, or even fearing our overthrow, and we remain to-day, an undivided nation, trusting in God who hath given us the victory over our enemies.

It would not appear strange to the reader of history in future time, were he told that while we were waging one of the most gigantic wars ever carried on—and rolling up a debt of thousands of millions—there should have been a lull—not to say a paralysis—of efforts and contributions for benevolent objects. So far from this, however, it will appear that vast amounts of good have been accomplished—too vast to be estimated by

human arithmetic, but whose moral results will tell through ages of eternity. Even the few figures, which are within knowledge, of contributions to only eight objects, give a total \$1,693,887,—greatly in advance of any preceding year.

The Report of our Secretary will inform you of the success the great project of placing the Bible in the hands of millions our fellow beings by its faithful and elegant translation i Arabic—and that this has been accomplished here at home tyear.

No figures can estimate the influence which has been exer the past year by the Parent Bible Society—not only by print books in forty-six (46) different languages and dialects, foreign distribution, but by its judicious and generous contritions to our own armies, through the agency of the Christ Commission, of 415,840 volumes, valued at \$60,740; maki—including former donations,—a total to the Christian Comission of 1,265,175 volumes; also to the Freedmen, 33,7 volumes; to the southern troops, 58,500; to prisoners of w 33,694; besides large contributions to the naval service, Sunce schools, &c.

The Report of our Secretary will give you an account of w has been done by the instrumentality of this Society.

We rejoice to behold our land emerging from war, with all inhabitants disenthralled, a nation of freemen. Be it our delig ful work to aid our fellow citizens to throw off the gall bondage of sin, and to exult in the liberty wherewith Chamakes free—and let us earnestly strive to bring about as speed as possible the general diffusion of the Bible, as the surest w to civilize and save all races of men on the face of globe.

The Fifty-sixth Annual Report of the Trustees was reby Rev. Daniel Butler, Recording Secretary.

THE CHAIRMAN then said—Among those who have kind consented to be present and address you to-day, is a gent man from our sister State of Maine; and I have now a pleasure of introducing to the audience the Rev. George Walker, of Portland.

### REV. MR. WALKER'S ADDRESS.

# Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Society:

In these times of vicissitude and of change, there is a satisfaction in looking upon almost anything which wears an aspect of permanence. Amid the upheaval of old foundations, and the topling down of ancient landmarks, it sometimes comforts a man to be able to stand on some spot where he can say, "This does not need to change; this has not changed; this, as it was, as it is, as it was meant to be, will answer, without new proclamations of principles or alteration of any kind;" and therefore, Sir, I was gratified, on receiving an invitation to say a few words on this occasion, to read that this was the fifty-sixth Anniversary of the Massachusetts Bible Society. Fifty-six years, in America, Sir, make anything old. Moss grows upon it; ivy clings around it. A scent of antiquity, an aspect of venerableness belongs to anything that outlasts, amid the feverish revolutions of our American society, a half century. Therefore, Sir, I am glad to stand on this platform, built nearly two generations ago, and to look up to this Society, which stands where it stood, sending out, through the midnight and the storm, the same clear radiance which it has shed for fifty years.

There is another gratifying fact in connection with this Anniversary. It seems there are some still left who believe in the importance and desirableness of extending the sacred Scriptures. Notwithstanding all the assaults which have been made upon the Bible, notwithstanding the open attacks of its enemies, and the disguised attacks of those who more covertly assail it, there are, it appears, some who still believe in the importance of sending abroad through the earth the gospel of the Son of God, recorded in the sacred volume. This audience is not assembled to contemplate the merits of a new enterprise; it has not met to hear, and pass judgment upon, the claims of some new book; it has come to give the Bible—the old Bible—the familiar Bible —a wider spread. It has come to ask what has been done in the year past, and what can be done in the future to give a greater circulation to these "leaves which are for the healing of the nations." Mr. Chairman, I have no desire to institute any invidious comparisons between the claims of this Society and

any other which holds its anniversary at this time; but still, the Bible Society may have the proud satisfaction of feeling that its objects and its methods are independent of many of the mutations which affect the operations of some other bodies, who celebrate their anniversaries at this time. We are met, Sir, in behalf of an object which has been dear to those who have gone before us. Voices which are hushed in the grave have plead the merits of this cause, and we do but take up the old work when we ask men to give the Bible spread.

If, Sir, the first Bible Society had had an arm long enough to reach over the earth, if the first popular edition of the Holy Scriptures had been sufficiently numerous to spread abroad over the whole earth, we should never have needed this multiplied machinery and these multiplied organizations. Of what other enterprise than this can such independence of these mutabilities The fashion of almost all the things of this world be affirmed? It is so in popular literature, for example. passes away. fashion of literature passes away. The style of thought, of poetry, of romance, which is popular in one epoch is superseded in the next. The grand old era of Elizabethan letters, with its heights and depths, its sunshine and shadows, gave way to the Addisonian period of level life and level utterances; the pastorals of Spenser were forgotten in the satires of Pope; the historic novels of Scott rest dusty upon the shelf, while the dogeared volumes of Dickens complain of a ceaseless unrest. Or, take one single example from the mechanic arts. Suppose we could recall from his resting-place on some hill-side of our mother country a doughty champion who fought, for example, under Henry the Third, at Lincoln, or who fell in some of the wars of the Bruce along the border, and could take him through one of our modern arsenals, and show him the implements of modern warfare, what conception would the doughty old champion form of our modern appliances and arms? Suppose we pointed out to him the weapon called a Minnie rifle, what would that man, who in his day supposed a shield of mail, perhaps even an ox hide, was sufficient guard against the cross-bow bolt,—what would he make of this weapon, sure to pick off its victim, a mile and a half distant? Or what could he make of that "swamp angel," which dropped its messengers of death

through the roofs and into the chambers of Charleston, at a distance twice as far as from here to Dorchester? Whatever pranks his fancy might play about this weapon, he certainly would not connect it with the art of war. He might fancy it a gigantic mortar for the gods, or a huge bottle for Odin or Thor, but he would never think it belonged to the profession to which he had given his life.

Sir, these mutations take place in all the departments of human effort, but they take not place in the objects of the enterprise which has gathered you to-day. You come to ask how you may give the old Bible, the familiar Bible, the same Bible our fathers and mothers have read, to millions who have never read it, and who wait to receive it at your hands. notwithstanding the objects of this Society are so fixed and steadfast in their character, there are times when the claims of this Society, I think, rise into special distinctness, when the advocates of this cause are called upon to labor with new and fresh devotedness; and such a time, as it seems to me, is the present. Your Society has indeed made a noble record. We have had an account given of its efforts which has cheered our But yet, we call upon it to do more. Our great solicitude is, that it take up the task with greater diligence and labor with stronger hands; and by your leave, Sir, I will, in the very few moments which remain to me, indicate the point which it seems to me ought to press upon our minds, gathered here on this occasion; —indicate, that is, one of the reasons why, at this special time, out of the very midst of the turmoil of our affairs, there comes a voice urging us to dedicate ourselves anew to this enterprise, and to give more earnest strength to this sacred cause. The reason which I would suggest is not that the Bible is a chief force in the education of man—though this is a cause for giving the Bible spread which might well plead itself before us to-day. The Bible is not afraid, Sir, at times, to lay down something of its highest claims, and put itself, by virtue of far lower ones into competition, or at least into comparison, with some of the best forces which move men. And, Sir, tried by this lower standard, the Bible vindicates to itself the chief place as the educator of men. The themes which the Bible presents for the meditation of men, are the loftiest themes which

can enter into human thought. They strengthen and enlarge the understanding. Contact with these themes is really in the very highest sense, education. And, Sir, wherever the Bible goes, it carries these themes. It needs not the College to pave the pathway of its approach. Wherever the Bible is, in the thatched cottage of the Highland peat cutter, or the log-cabin of the frontier settler, it brings those themes which enlarge the mind, it brings the mightiest problems of human thought down to the comprehension of the dwellers there.

But, Sir, the power of the Bible as an educator is not merely a direct power, from being thus brought into contact with the human mind; it has a still mightier power, perhaps, which is The Bible has never been afraid to encourage all other forms of education. It has always been generous towards other appliances for enlarging the sphere of human thought. Why, Sir, it was the translation of the Bible into our mother tongue which first woke the English mind. The translation of the Bible was like the clash of steel upon the dull flint of the popular intellect of England. The heavens glitter yet with the brightness of that period of English letters. So, Sir, it has always been. Harvard College, whose honored representative is to address us to-day, was planted by men so poor that a bushel of corn was thankfully received as a contribution to the College treasury; and yet, Sir, by men who could familiarly talk, in their leisure hours, in the language of the Holy Scriptures. Well, Sir, this has always been the case. Wherever the Bible has gone, there Colleges have arisen; there common schools have been scattered; there Science has experimented; there Art has adorned. These go not before, and invite the Bible to follow on; it is the Bible that pioneers the way in the education of mankind.

But, Sir, this is not the main reason why I think this Society is called upon, at this present juncture of affairs, to redouble its exertions. Nor is it simply that that Bible is the Book of Life, —of spiritual life,—that its friends are called upon, in a peculiar manner, at this time, to give it spread. This is, indeed, the Bible's highest claim. It is because it is a book of spiritual life that we call upon men, with the most earnestness, to spread abroad these leaves which heal the souls of men. It is just

where other learning breaks off that the real value of the Bible It is just where human wisdom ends that the main value of the Book of God begins. There might be some treatises of science which would show men how to bring the forces of nature under the control and subject to the uses of the present life; there might be treatises of morality which would do much to elevate society, and to bring the amenities of life into contact with the humblest hearts. But, Sir, the Bible comes when these things fail; it comes when problems which cannot be thus answered rise upon the soul; and at that time, when no other lips but those of the Word of God can speak consolation, the Bible speaks that word which gives peace and comfort to the soul. is on the borders of the grave,—there where philosophy sinks, and the vain wisdom of man dies,—that the Word of God sends out over the future the firm pontoons of immortal faith, and makes, for one who takes the Bible for his guide, a sure pathway to the presence of God and the Lamb.

But, Sir, notwithstanding that this is a great motive, always, for giving the Bible spread, there are at times, it seems to me, other motives which may fitly come into the foreground in our thought,-motives which are pressing, imperious, and close to us; and one such, Sir, (and with the suggestion of it, I will close,) is this: We are to give the Bible greater spread in this land, at this special time, because it is a book, which, above all other books, teaches us the principles of liberty and of good government. The foundation of all true liberty, everywhere, is laid in the principles of the Bible. It was the Bible which loosed the grasp of the Roman master upon his slave; which broke the hold of the Gothic conqueror upon his serf; which took away from the British Baron his control over his vassal. And it did this by bringing home, as nothing else does, the sense of personal responsibility to every soul; it did it by reckoning every man a being responsible unto God; by claiming for him the sacred rights of fatherhood—the right to liberty—the right to pursue his own course in life, untrammelled by other men; and, Sir, wherever the Bible has gone, these claims have been vindicated and sus-It was the Bible, Sir, which won our English liberties. The men who carved them out at Naseby, and at Marston Moor, were men whose haversacks held, whatever they may have

lacked, a Bible for every man. And what was Puritanism, with all its long train of consequences, but a revival in men's hearts of the power of God's truth? What was it but the power of this truth which launched the Mayflower, and bore it over wintry seas, and sowed the sandy shores of Plymouth with villages and graves? And, Sir, the force of the Bible, in thus upholding the principles of civil liberty, has not abated. What means this tramp of a hundred thousand returning volunteers? Whence has come that light which has shone in the camps along the Mississippi and the James? Whence has been borrowed that moral power which has stricken the brazen forehead of Rebellion down? Sir, it has come from the principles of the Bible. The Bible has stood in the line. The voice of the Bible has sounded in every Federal gun, and its truth has flashed from every national bayonet. And, lo! while we look to see the effect of gospel truth, four millions of emancipated slaves in this one land of ours stand up, a living commentary on that declaration of Holy Writ, "He shall break the yoke of the captive, and open the prison door." Sir, it has been the Bible which has done this.

Fathers and brethren of this Society, you who have watched over the interests of this Society so long, we have been putting the Bible to a wondrous test in these latter days. It reads like a new volume. It is like a document written in sympathetic It has needed the fires of war, it has needed the light which has shone from our camps, to bring out its hidden significance. How many passages do we read now as we did not read them before. We read there, as we used not to read, the reality of the brotherhood of man. "God hath made of one blood all the families of men that dwell on the face of the whole earth." Do you ask a comment on that scripture. Get it from some of the men who stood side by side with their colored brother soldiers at the assault on Fort Wagner or at Petersburg. "The ruler beareth not the sword in vain." We get new light upon that passage—a new meaning for it. The whole heart of the Christian church calls out for the realization of that truth in these coming days, in bringing condign punishment upon the authors of this wicked rebellion. I hope in God, Sir, we shall see an exposition of that passage, with Jefferson Davis, as the

lawyers would say, for the expoundee, and Andrew Johnson for the expounder.

Sir, we are learning new truth from this sacred volume of Holy Writ, and we are called upon by all these voices from the past, to give it a wider spread, and to establish it more firmly in the hearts of men. Sir, it is the Bible which has given us that precious word, which was heard in our Secretary's Report,— "Peace." Had the Bible been read and obeyed, we never should have had war. Had not some men believed in the Bible. and acted on the principles of the Bible, we never should have had peace. And now, Sir, comes the great work of the reconstruction of the liberties and institutions of this land;—and how is it to be done? For one, I say, welcome to every instrumentality that shall be employed! Welcome to the Tract Societywelcome to the Christian Commission—welcome to statesmen and to Sabbath Schools! Let Webster's reply to Hayne go side by side with Lincoln's Proclamation of Emancipation. Let the Homestead Bill go hand in hand with the library of the colporteur. Let suffrage for every man in this land be inseparably joined with the right of every man in this land to pray. Let all these instrumentalities combine to build up anew our liberties on a firm foundation. But, Sir, as your great hope, send the Bible. Send that Word. Disseminate it like autumn leaves throughout the land. Teach it to the emancipated blacks and the emancipated whites of the South. Build your new Union on this foundation stone, and you will build a Union which will last until the heavens roll together at the coming of the Son of Man. There was an auspicious significance, it seemed to me, in the fact, that at the raising of the flag in Charleston bay, which went down four years ago amid oaths and cursing, and the sound of cannon, and great threatenings of brothers' hate, it went up again to the skies amid the voice of prayer and the reading of the Word of God. God grant that this may be but typical of the reinstatement of those liberties and that Government which are founded upon the principles of the Bible, and to which the Bible alone can give perpetuity and success.

The Rev. Thomas Hill, D. D., President of Harvard University, made the concluding Address.

#### PRESIDENT HILL'S ADDRESS.

The great work to which this Society is devoted assumes in the present social and political condition of the country a new importance. The ploughshare of war has turned up new fields, and prepared them for the reception of the seed of life. Whatever may be the future action of the States, in which the late rebellion raged most fiercely, there are certain evils of the past which they cannot revive. They cannot revive the system of chattel slavery, that has been abolished by the action of war, and its renewal will doubtless be prevented by a constitutional amendment already ratified by many of the States. they, let us hope, be so insane as to enforce any longer their laws against teaching persons of African descent to read. safety of the state will demand that these freed slaves, released from the control of their masters, should be educated to take proper care of themselves, and not be left in ignorance and liable thus to become a dangerous class. It is conceded that the freedmen of the South are, in spite of the sins which have been universal among them as slaves, a religiously disposed people. The very oppression under which they have so long groaned has led them to look unto God. Wholly unable to defend themselves against the injustice, the cruelty, or the lust of the ruling race, even when their own particular masters were men of genuine righteousness, and sought to defend them, -wholly unable to find refuge in any arm of flesh, they must either die in dumb despair or lean on the Almighty arm for support,—and with the strongly emotional nature of the negro, their trust in God became a fervid religious enthusiasm. Meanwhile the false social position of the two races there has infused into a very considerable percentage of the slave population an admixture of English and French blood, carrying with it intellectual quickness, a thirst for knowledge, a conscious assertion of rights, which has made the mixed races uneasy and troublesome as slaves; and will make them ready learners and ready teachers of the simplest literary arts, now that they are freedmen. may therefore reasonably expect that in a very few years the great mass of the colored population of the South will be ready to receive the simplest forms of religious reading. It is a question of grand import whether they will be quickly and

thoroughly supplied, and with the Word of Life, or whether the supply shall be insufficient and of inferior quality, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. In the latter case the freedmen, elated by their suddenly acquired liberty, may throw off the authority of religion also, and degenerate rapidly into a lawless and worthless population, retaining the vices and losing the virtues of slaves and proving as heavy a burden as ever upon the body politic. But if through the timely action of the Bible Society the mass of freedmen are brought under pure religious influences before yet their docility and trust in God has been impaired, they will retain the virtues and drop the vices of slave life and become a valuable portion of the state, whether they remain forever with us, or whether, as I am inclined to prophecy, they are gradually attracted by the growing prosperity of Liberia to emigrate to their original continent. At all events the best and only course for us while they are here, is to elevate them as rapidly as possible, in their intellectual and moral condition.

To this end the action of your Society has been a most efficient, will be a most efficient means. And it seems to me that the great importance of this new field suddenly opened to us in the providence of God, demands a slight modification of our action. We must remember that it has heretofore been a felony to teach these people to read,—and that therefore the vast majority of them cannot read the Word even when placed in their hauds. We must remember also that our English tongue is peculiarly difficult to learn in its printed form, from the great variety of sounds given to a letter, or to a combination of letters, and from the great variety of combinations representing the same sound. This is indeed one of the chief causes why there are in England and in this country so many persons unable to read and write, it is simply because learning to read English is so very difficult a task.

Now if the New Testament and Psalms, or if the first signatures, that is the first sheets of paper, in the beginning of each of the various volumes issued by the Bible Society, could be so printed as to facilitate greatly the process of teaching to read, if this could be done without much extra expense, and without injuring the appearance and usefulness of the volume to those

who can already read, it appears to me that there is a most solemn and imperative call upon us to see that such editions are issued, for the use of the freedmen of the South, and for the benefit of immigrants speaking a foreign tongue and desirous of learning to speak ours.

But such an edition is possible. The experiment has been tried of printing English words with such artifices of printing, by introducing hair spaces between the syllables, italicising silent letters, and adding a very few points above and below the letters, as rendered it vastly easier for the learner to arrive at the pronunciation of the word from its visible form. Not only has such a phonic text been printed, but pupils taught from it with very great success,—and I should feel myself guilty of a great wrong to all the ignorant classes using English speech, and to all their teachers if I failed to seize this opportunity of publicly entreating the Bible Society to try the experiment of issuing volumes with at least the first few signatures printed in a phonic text, either that employed by Rev. Mr. Zachos, or one superior to it, if such can be devised.

And having made this appeal in behalf of the freedmen of the South, and in behalf of our country as affected by their future character and behavior, I have done all that I particularly desired to do in moving the acceptance of the Report. is not necessary for me in this assembly to go back to the first principles of Christian Faith, and attempt to demonstrate that the volumes of the Old and New Testament are the most valuable of books and to be put into the hands of all men rather than any other writings. It is not necessary surely for me to attempt to show that the holiest and best writings of the saints of modern ages, are after all of little worth when weighed against that Book from which we draw all our knowledge of Revelation,—and from which indeed all modern religious doctrine of any soundness is confessedly drawn, or to which at least it is confessedly referred as test and umpire. I need attempt no such task because it is superfluous. We are Christians and I need not address you as if unbelievers.

The very times which have opened this new and immense field of missionary labor in our own country bring to us also the

clearest testimony to the value of the written Word as an engine of moral power, and as a source of moral light.

For I suppose that in no country of the world, if we except Scotland, has there been so universal a knowledge of the Bible, so free and manly an investigation of its contents, as in the loyal States of America. In the rebellious States, the slaves and poorer white men could not read, and the wealthier white men, if they read the volume, read it usually under the control of a very strict creed allowing them no latitude of thought or interpretation. But in the loyal States on the contrary the Bible was read in the public schools and taught in the Sunday schools, and was discussed and interpreted with a freedom that even sometimes bordered on irreverence. But this knowledge of the blessed Book created in all better natures a deeper respect for its teaching, and gave its spirit more power over the heart.

I take therefore the noble heroism of our people, their still more noble charity, shown during the past four years, and their almost divine forbearance and forgiveness towards the awful barbarities and unheard-of crimes of the insurgents, to be fruits of the Christian spirit, which they have drawn directly or indirectly from the Word of God, the volume which Bible Societies have furnished to every family that can read its pages.

We who are here present need no argument to prove the value of the work which our Society has undertaken. And could my voice reach those who are indifferent to our work I would say: Is not the volume which is thus the well of life to thousands, their light, their strength, their joy, their consolation, their hope, worthy of reverence? Is not the work of placing it within the reach of all who desire its aid, one of the holiest of all charities? Will the kindness that has been ready to furnish to the soldier and the sailor, and the freedman, every comfort and alleviation of their bodily condition, that could be reasonably desired, refuse to furnish to the perishing this most enduring of all treasures, this most nourishing of all food, this most miraculous of all cordials,—this very water of life?

The services were then closed with the Doxology and Benediction.

# CONSTITUTION.

# CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

### THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

#### ACT OF INCORPORATION.

#### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

SEC. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Drown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.

- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.—Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

#### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year Eighteen Hundred and Sixty-five. An Act in addition to an Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- SEC. 1. The Corporation heretofore established by the name of THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS, shall hereafter be known by the name of the Massachusetts Bible Society, and by that name shall have, hold and enjoy all its rights and privileges and be subject to all its liabilities and obligations to the same extent as if its name had not been changed.
- SEC. 2. The said Society may publish, procure, purchase, circulate and distribute Bibles and Testaments in any other than the English language, in the same manner and to the same extent as they are now authorized by law to distribute Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, any thing in the Act incorporating the said Society to the contrary notwithstanding.—Approved by the Governor, February 27, 1865.

## BY - LAWS.

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At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

#### ARTICLE I.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

#### ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

#### ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

#### ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

#### ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, fourteen Vice Presidents, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice Presidents, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

#### ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice Presidents and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

#### ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

#### ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

#### ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

#### ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository.

#### ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

#### ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

#### PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository, annually, the value of one dollar in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

# MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

BY THE PAYMENT OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

Abbe, Rev. Frederick R., Abington. Abbe, Mrs. Frederick R. Abbott, Rev. Jacob J., Whitinsville. Aborn, John G., South Reading. Adams, Elizabeth W., Derry, N. H. Adams, John Clark, Hopkinton. *Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. Adams, Nehemiah, D. D., Boston. Adams, Stephen W., Medway. Adkins, Miss Mary J., South Deer field. *Albree, John, Boston. Albro, John A., D. D., Cambridge. Albro, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Albro, Miss Annie E. Alden, Almira S. C., Fozboro'. Alden, Russell, Campello. Alden, Miss Sarah B., Randolph. Alden, Miss Susan, Aldrich, Mrs. Mary B., Westboro'. Allen, Rov. Nathaniel G., Somerville. Allen, Richard H., Braintres. Ames, Jumes 8, Haverkill. Andrews, Artemas F., Fitchburg. Andrews, C. L., Boston. Andrews, W. T. Andrews, Thomas E., Holliston. *Appleton, Samuel, Beston. *Appleton, William, " Archibald, Edward, Methuen. Armes, Miss ('lara F., Campello. Atwood, Mrs. Abby, Chatham. Atwood, John W., North Bridgewater. Babcock, Mrs. Nancy, Buston. Babcock, Rev. William R., Jamaica Plain. Babson, Miss Maria R., Gloucester. " Bacon, Jacob, Eacon, Rev. James M., Essez. Bacon, Joseph N., Newton. Baker, Mrs. Eleanor J. W., Dorchester. Baker, Francis, South Danvers. Ball, Miss Elizabeth, Concord. Barber, Mrs. Eliza A, South Danvers. Barber, Martin, Sherborn. Barber, Rev. William M., South Denvers. *Bardwell, Lieut. Charles S., Whately. Barker, Hiram, Brighton.

Barnard, William F., Marlboro.' *Barnes, William, Barnes, Zilpah, Henniker, N. H. Barrett, Nathan II., Concord. Barrett, Miss Rebecca M. Bartlett, Mrs. Eleanor C., Plymouth. Bartlett, Thomas, Boston. Bassett, Henry, Newton. Batchelder, John M., Holliston. Batchelor, Stephen F., Whitinsville. *Bayley, Robert, Newburgport. Beal, Alexander, Boston. Beal, Mrs. Louisa, Cokasset. Beane, Rev. Samuel, Norten. Beebe, James M., Boston. 66 Beebe, Mrs. James M. " Beebe, Charles E. Beebe, France L. Beebe, Edward P. " " Reebe, Emily B. 66 Beebe, Mary L. Beecher, Rev. William H., No. Brookfeld. Belknap, Miss Martha M., Framingham. Benson, Frederick A., Newton. Blanchard, Miss Frances C., Greton. Bliss, Rov. Charles R., South Reading. Bliss, Mrs. Charles R. Blodgett, Benjamin C., Newton. Bludgett, Simeon, South Deerfield. Blood, Cyrus W., Winchester. Blood, Lyman, Groton. Bodwell, Rev. Joseph C., Woburn. Bodwell, Mrs. Catharine, Boston. *Bond, George, " Bowers, Luke K. Bowers, Mrs. Cara H. " Brackett, James, Quincy. Brackett, Lemuel, *Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgetown-Brant, Aaron, South Reading. Breed, Rev. William J., Rayakam. Brower, Cyrus, Dorchester. Brewer, Mrs. C. F., Boston. Brewer, John R. Brickett, Franklin, Haverhill. Briggs, Rev. William T., Princeton.

Brigge, Mrs. Abby L., Princeton. *Bronfield, Elizabeth, Beston. *Brooks, Peter C. Brooks, Peter C. Brown, Mrs Harriet L., Boston. Brown, Joseph, Groton. Brown, Mrs. Mary O., Haverhill. Bucklin, Simon S., Brookline. Bulkley, Mrs. C. F., Plattsburgh, N. Y. Burge, Lorenzo, Boston. Burr, Charles C., Auburndale. Burrage, J. C., Boston. Burrill, Henry, Jr., East Abington. Bush, Henry J., Westfield. Bushby, Sophia W., South Danvers. Butler, Rev. Daniel, Boston. Butler, Mrs. Jane D. Cady, Rev. Daniel R., West Cambridge. Cady, Mrs. Harriet S. Caldwell, Rev. W E., Hyannis Capen, Mrs. Charles, Framingham. Capron, William C., Usbridge. Carleton, George H., Haverhill. Carpenter, Catharine E., Fozboro'. Carpenter, Daniel, " Carpenter, Edson, Carr, John C., West Newbury. Carrier, Rev. Augustus H., Auburndale. Carter, Edward, Andover. Cary, George C., N. Bridgewater. Cary, Mrs. Mary D., Fozboro'. Chandler, Miss Frances E., Andover. Chandler, H. H., Charlestown. Chapin, Caleb T., Northboro'. Chapman, George H., Winchester. Chase, Ann Maria, Haverkill. Chase, Charles W., Chase, George S. Chase, Hezekiah, Lynn. Chase, Robert, Huverhill. Cheover Ira, Chelsea. Child, Miss Anna G., Springfield. Child, Miss Lucy, Thetford, Vt. Childs, Carlos, Henniker, N. H. Childs, Horace, Choate, David, M. D., Salem. *Clap, James, Dorchester. Clap, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston. Clapp, James B. " Clapp, John C. Clapp, Samuel, Fozborough. Clark, Rev. Edward L., No Bridgewater. Clark, Elbridge, East Medway. Clark, George, Concord. Clark, James G., Andover. Clark, John L., Clark, Jonathan, Winchester. Clark, Rev. Joseph B, Yarmouth.

Clark, Mrs. Miranda D., Boston. Clark, Miss Nelly, Sherborn. Clark, Oliver R., Winchester. Clark, Rov. P. K., South Deerfield. Clark, Rufus W., D. D., Albany, N. Y. Clarke, Mrs. Adeliza H., Medway. Clarke, Rev. Dorus, Wultham. Clarke, Francis, Hanerhill. Clarke, George E., Ful mouth. Clary, Mrs. S. S., Wareham. Cleaveland, Waldo, South Deerfield. Clifford, Wyatt B., Chatham. Cubb, Andrew B., Newton Corner. Cobb, Jacob, Abington. Cohh, Rev. L. H., Andover. *Cobb, Richard, Boston. *Codman, Charles R. " Codman, Mrs. Catharine, " Colby, Albert, Colby, Barnk, Henniker, N. H. Cole, Asa, West Medway. Cole, Miss Ella A., Medway. Conn, Horace, Woburn. Cook, Asa, Newton. Coolidge, Rev. Amos H., Leicester. Coolidge, Joseph, Boston. Coolidge, Lowell, Sherborn. Coolidge, Mrs. Catharine, " Copp, Joseph A., D. D., Chelsea. Copp, Mrs. Fedora F., Cousens, Beulah F., Newton Centre. Cowdry, Robert, Winchester. Crasts, Mrs. Sarah P., Newton. Crosby, James, Boston. Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca, Cruikshanks, George, St. Johnsbury, Pt. Curtis, Abner, East Abington. Cushman, George H., North Bridgewater. Cushman, Mrs. Rachel B. Cutter, Stephen, Winchester. Cutter, Stephen H. Dakin, Thomas L., Sudbury. Damon, Albert P., Reading. *Dana, Samuel, Boston. Dana, Charles B., Brookline. Dane, John H. Daniell, Mrs. Eliza B., E. Medway. Daniell, Otis, Boston. Daniels, Mrs. Mariam W., East Medicay. Davis, Alfred N., N. Wilmington. Davis, Alvah M., Haverhill. Davis, James, Boston. Davis, John, Methuen. Davis, Lydia K., Dunstable. Davis, Rev. Perloy B., Sharon. Davis, Thaddeus Uriah, Dunstable. Day, Robert L., Newton. Dickson, Oliver, Somerville.

Dickson, Mrs. Sarah E., Somerville. Denham, Rev. George, Chelsea. Denham, Mrs. Clara D. " Dickerman, Rev. Lysander, Weymouth. Dix, Mrs. Elijah, Boston. Dix, Samuel F., Newton. Dodd, Rev. Stephen G., East Randelph. Dodge, Rev. John, Harvard. Dodge, Mrs. Ann S. Dodge, Mrs. J. M. C., Andover. Doggett, Rev. Thos., Niagara Falls, N. Y. Doggett, Mrs. Frances L. 66 Doggett, William, *Dorr, John, Boston. *Dow, Josiah, " *Dowse, Edward, Dedkam. *Dowse, Elizabeth R. L., Sherborn. Dudley, P. W., Whitinsville. Dudloy, Mrs. Sarah A. Dunham, Charles H., Winchester. Dunlap, Sumner, South Deerfield. Dunton, Hiram P., Spencer. Dunn, Edward H., Boston. Durgin, James, West Newbury. Dutch, Elizabeth, Boston. Dyer, Rev. E. Porter, Smerville. Eager, William, Boston. Eames, Mrs. Nancy, Sherbern. Eames, Warren, Wilmington. Eastburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, D. D , Boston. Eaton, Mrs. Ann E., South Reading. Eaton, Eben, Framingham. Eaton, Miss Martha W., Fitchburg. Eaton, William, Boston. Eaton, William J., Westbere'. Eddy, Joshua, East Middleboro'. Edwards, Frederick B., N. Chelmsford. Edwards, Maria F. Edwards, Nathan B. Edwards, Nathan F. " Edwards, Sibbyl R. " Edwards, Victor E. Eldred, Lorenzo, Falmouth. *Elint, Samuel, Boston. *Eliot, Samuel A. " Ella, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Oberlin, O. Elwell, Robert, Buston. Emerson, Jacob, Jr., Methuen. Emerson, Mrs. Jacob, Emerson, R. V. C., Newton. Emery, Mrs. Harriet, North Weymouth. Emery, Mrs. Mary, Chatham. Emery, Mrs. Sarah M., Newburwport. *Everett, Edward, Boston. Fairbanks, Stephen, " *Farnsworth, Mrs. Abel, Groton. Farr, Alba A., Methuen. Farwell, Stephen T., Cambridge.

Fay, Cyrus, Westbore'. Fay, Josiah C., Hopkinton. Fayorweather, Mrs. S. A., Westberu'. Fayerweather, Miss S. W., Fearing, Albert, Boston. Fearing, Mrs. Albert, " Fisher, Miss Eliza, Medicay. Fisher, Milton M., Medway Village. Fitch, John A., Hopkinton. Fitz, Daniel, D. D., Ipswick. Fitz, Mrs. Hannah B. D. Fitz, Daniel, Jr. Fitz, Daniel F. Flanders, Joseph, Haverkill. Fletcher, Ephraim S., Whitinsville. Fletcher, Mrs. L. C. Fletcher, Mrs. Hannah C., Manchester. Fletcher, Isaac W., Stop. Fletcher, Nancy B. Fletcher, Rev. James F., Danvers. Fletcher, Mrs. Lydia M. Fletcher, Stillman, Winchester. Fletcher, William, Flinn, Mrs. Paulona, Floyd, Miss Mary J., South Danvers. Ford, Rev. George, Tolland. *Ford, Thomas A., Besten. Ford, Thomas A., North Bridgewater. Ford, Mrs. Eliza C. Fosdick, Charles, Groton. Fordick, Frederick, Fordick, Rose, *Fosdick, Samuel W. " Fordick, Miss Mary, " Fueter, Rev. Aaron, E. Charlemont. Foster, Miss Eliza C., Rowley. Foster, Mrs. Mary, Palmer. *Francie, Ebenezer, Boston. French, Mrs. Harriet S., Taunton. Frothingham, A. T., Cambridge. Furber, Rev. Daniel L., Newton. Furber, Mrs. Maria B. Gage, Garvin R., Woburn. Gale, Rev. Wakefield, Rockport. *Gale, Mrs. Wakefield, Gale, Justin Edwards, Gallot, Nathan, Groton. Garrette, Rev. Edmund Y., Millbury. Garrette, Mrs. Franzenia W. Garrette, Flora Gertrude, 66 66 Garrette, Mary Spring, Gilson, Mrs. Luther, Groten. *Gibbs, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Gilbort, Benjamin R. 44 Gilos, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Rockport. Giles, Miss Mary Olivo, Gloucester. Gilman, Miss Rebecca I., Bradford. Goodell, H. Augustus, Whitinsville.

Gordon, Solomon J., Besten. Gordon, Mrs. Rebecca, " Gordon, Jeannie, Gott, J. R., Rockport. *Grant, Moses, Besten. *Gray, Francis C. " *Gray, Henry, Gray, Horace, " Gray, John C. Greeley, Rev. Edward H., Methuen. Greeley, Mrs. Edward H. Green, Rev. J. S. C., Newton. Greenwood, Mrs. Sally K., Sherbern. *Grew, John, *Boston.* Griggs, Dr. Samuel, Westbore'. Griggs, Mrs. S. M. Grover, Mrs. Caroline, Fozbere'. Hale, E. J. M., Haverhill. Hale, Mrs. E. J. M. " Hall, Mrs. Joseph F., Groton. *Hammatt, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Hammond, Rev. W. B., Morrisville, N. Y Hammond, Mrs. Louise M. Harding, Mrs. Temperance, Chatham. Hardwick, Thomas, Quincy. Hartwell, Lottie E., Groton. Hardy, Truman, Manchester. Hastings, Alice, Newtonville. Hastings, Hollis, Framingham. *Hatch, Benjamin, East Falmouth. Hawes, Cynthia, Wrentham. Hawes, Julia, Hayward, Elias, Braintres. Hayward, Paul, Ashby. Hazel, Mrs. Sarah L , Gloucester. Headley, Rev. P. C., Waterville, Me. Healy, Rev. Joseph W., Walpele. *Heard, John, Ipswick. Henshaw, Mrs. Sarah W., Boston. Fozboro'. Hersey, Jacob, Hewins, Mrs. Annette P. " Hewins, Levi R. *Higginson, Stephen, Jr., Boston. Hildreth, Mrs. Mary R., Groton. Hill, Rev. George E., Sazonville. *Hill, Henry, Boston. Hill, Jotham, Woburn. Hitchcock, George M., Brimfield. Hobson, Miss Priscilla, Rowley. Holbrook, Elisha, East Randelph. Holland, Miss Sarah E., Boston. Holm, Jacob P., Manchester. *Holmes, Abiel, D. D., Cambridge Holmes, Miss Elizabeth A., Belvidere, Ill. Holmes, Mrs. Fanny D., South Plymouth. Homer, Charles W., Cambridge. Hooker, George B., Skerbern. Hooper, Robert, Boston.

Hoppin, Rev. James M., New Haven, Hosmer, Miss Eliza, Concord. Hovey, George O., Besten. How, Frederick, Danvers. *How, James, Boston. Howard, Rev. Martin S., Greecland. Howard, Mrs. Matilda P., N. Bridge *Howe, John, Howes, Collins, Chatham. Howard, Cary, North Bridgewater. Howard, David, Hoyt, Mrs. Maria, Framingham. Hubbard, Mrs. Charles A., Concord. Hulbert, Charles, Boston. Humphrey, Daniel, North Weymouth. Hurd, Francis P., M. D., South Readin Hutchins, Caroline M., Westford. Hutchins, Maria J. Hutchins, William E. *Hyelop, David, Boston. Jackman, Mrs. Susan M., Medway. Jackson, James, Boston. *Jackson, Patrick T. " Jeffries, Miss Catharine Amory, Best Jephson, Miss C. R., Breeklins. Johnson, Mrs. Emma E., Bradford. Johnson, Francis, Winchester. Johnson, Peter R., Holliston. Johnson, Miss Rebecca, North Andor Johnson, Mrs. S. W., Farmington, N Jones, Augustus T., North Bridgewa Jones, Henry E., Hollisten. Joy, Mrs. Abigail, Boston. Keep, N. C. Keith, Adelbert F., Campelle. Keith, Albert, Keith, Arza B. *Koith, Charles, North Bridgewater. Keith, Ziba C., Campello. Kendall, Mrs. Abel M., Boston. Kendall, William, Whitinsville. Kendrick, John, Haverkill. Kendrick, Mrs. Lydia F., Chatham. Kerr, Robert W., Fozbere'. Kerr, Jane K. Kettelle, Jacob Q., Boston. Kimball, Benjamin, 2d, Haverhill. Kimball, Rov. Caleb, Medway. Kimball, Daniel W., Winchester. Kimball, David, Bradford. Kimball, John R., Woburn. Kimball, Mrs. Sylvia, Westboro'. Kingman, Miss Eliza, Boston. Kingman, Miss Sarah, Kingsbury, Nathaniel, Kittredge, Rev. A. E., New York cif *Knowles, Rev. James D., Beston. Knox, Mrs. S., Rock Island, Ill.

Lambert, Miss Elizabeth G., Rewley. Lambert, Rev. Thomas R., Charlestown. Lamson, Edwin, Boston. Lamson, Mrs. Edwin, " Lamson, Helen, Lane, Anthony, Lancaster. Lane, Rev. John W., Whately. Lane, Richmond J., East Abington. Langworthy, Rev. Isaac P., Chelsea. Larkin, Lydia E., Chester, N. H. Lasell, Josiah, Auburndals. Laurie, Inglis, Owatonna, Minnesota. *Lawrence, Amos, Boston. Lawrence, Rev. Amos E., Lancaster. Lawrence, Asa, Grolon. *Lawrence, Mrs. M. A. Lawrence, Curtis, Lawrence, Mrs. Curtis, Lawrence, Miss Susan F., " Lawrence, Mrs. Nancy T., Wilton, Me. Leach, Simeon, East Stoughton. Leavitt, Mrs. Elizabeth G., Huston. Lee, Rev. Samuel II., North Bridgewater. Leeds, Benjamin, Brooklins. Leods, Benjamin, Jr. Loeds, Mrs. Anne B. Leeds, Miss Anne G. " Lees, Mrs. Samuel, Concord. Lefavour, Issachar, Beverly. Leland, Calvin, Jr., Natick. Leonard, Eliza, Fozboro'. Loonard, James M., Bridgewater. Lowis, Beuben, Groton. Lincoln, Rev. Calvin, Hingham. Lincoln, F. W., Jr., Boston. Lincoln, Nonh, Little, Rev. Elbridge G., No. Middlebore'. Little, Mrs. Lucia S., N. Middleboro'. Little, Sarah Isabel, Little, Waldo F., Newton Centra Little, William A. Livermore, George, Cambridge. *Locke, Ephraim, Boston. Loomis, Rev. Elihu, Littleton. Lord, Miss Anna M., Ipswick. Lord, John A., South Danvers. Lord, Louisa C., Manchester. Loring, Miss Hannah W., Newton Centre. *Lowell, Charles, D. D., Beston. Lumb, William, Lyman, Rev. George, Sutton. Lyon, Miss Chloe R., Campello. Maltby, Rev. Erastus, Taunton. Manning, Otia, Littleton. Manning, Edward W., Woburn. Marble, Mrs. Mary E., Greston.

Marrett, Lorenzo, East Cambridge.

Marsh, Elizabeth C., Haverhill

Marsh, E. J., Leominster. Marsh, Miss Julia M., Haverkill. Maynard, Rev. Joshua L., Plainfield. Ct. *Mareton, William, Boston. *McKean, William, McKeen, Philena. Andover. *McLean, Mrs. Ann, Boston. McLean, Rev. John K., Framingham. Means, Rev. John O., Ruzbury. Means, Mrs. John O. Merriam, Abner II., Templeton. Messenger, Miss Eliza, Fitchburg. Mills, Rev. Charles L., Wrentham. Mille, Mrs. Rebecca B. Minot, William, Boston. Minot, William, Jr. " Mixter, Mrs. Fanny L., Boston. Mixter, Mrs. Mary R., Herdwick. Mixter, Mrs. S. E., Rock Island, Il. Mooar, Rev. George, Oakland, Cal. Moors, Rufus, Groton. Moors, Mrs. Rufus, Mordough, Rev. John H., Portland, Me. Morley, Rev. Sardis B., Williamstown. Morrison, Daniel T., Methuen. Morrison, Miss Nancy T., Rowley. Morse, Miss Abby P., Emperia, Kansas. Morse, ('harles N , Fuzboro'. Morse, Miss Emily A., Bradford. Morse, Henry, Natick. Morse, Rufus W., Methuen. Moseley, Edward S., Newburyport. Mosman, Walter B., Chicopee. Munger, Rev. Theodore T., Haverkill. Murray, Rev. James O., New York Ci'y. Murray, Mrs. Julia R. Nason, Rev Elius, Exeter, N. H. Nolson, Jonathan H., Skrewsbury. *Newell, Montgomery, Buston. Newhall, Lucy Ann, Stow. Newman, Miss Sarah A., Ipswick. Nichols, Alfred A., West Amesbury. Nichole, James R., Haverhill. Nichols, Moses, Nightingule, Rev. Crawford, Groton. Norcross, Josiah, South Reading. Norcross, Mrs. Josiah, " Nourse, Daniel, West Medway. Nourse, Susan M., Bolton. Noyes, Alva, North Bridgewater. Noyes, Jacob, Abington. Noyes, Luke B., South Abington. Noyes, Rufus S., N. Bridgewater. Odlin, Benjamin, Ezeter, N. H. Odlin, Mrs. E. T. Ordway, Aaron I., New York city. Ordway, Miss Charlotte, Bradford.

Osborne, George F., South Danvers.

Osgood, H. B., Whitineville. Packard, Rev. D. Temple, Somerville. Packard, Edward C., North Bridgewater. Packard, S. Edwards, Packard, Zibeon, Abington. Paige, George R., New Selem. Paine, Mrs. Sarab M., Holden. *Paine, Miss Sarah C. Palmer, Rev. Charles Ray, Salem. *Palmer, Rev. Stephen, Needham. Palmer, Squire, South Deerfield. Park, John C., Boston. *Parker, John, Parker, Mrs. Sarah, 64 *Parkman, Francis, D. D. " " *Parkman, Samuel, 66 Parkman, Mrs. Sarah, Parmenter, Mrs. E. J. G., Peterskam. *Parsons, Gorham, Boston. *Parsons, William, Partridge, Joseph, Holliston. Patrick, Rev. Henry J., West Newton. Patrick, Mrs. Murtha L. Pattee, Willard, Fozboro'. Patterson, David H., Methuen. Paul, Frederick A., Lakeville. Paul, Henry, Newton. Paul, Mrs. Henry, Paul, Luther, Paul Luther, Jr. Paul, Miss Harriet, Paul, Miss Mary, Payson, Miss Susan, Fozboro'. Payson, William P., Pease, George W., Salem. Pearson, Miss Hannah J., Lowell. Peckhain, Hubbard, Peterskam. Peirce, Rev. Bradford K., Herlem, N. Y. Perkins, E. E., North Middlebore'. Perkins, Jairus H., North Middleboro'. *Perkins, James, Boston. *Perkins, James, Jr. *Perkins, Thomas H. " Perley, Mrs. Abigail T., Salem. Perley, Jacob, Salem. Perry, Miss Catharine H., Skerborn. *Peters, Edward D., Boston. Pettee, Miss Eliza J., Fuzboro'. Pettee, Samuel Gardner, Stoughton. Phillips, Alonzo P., South Danvers. *Phillips, Jonathan, Boston. Phillips, Mrs. Sally, *Phillips, William, Pickard, Rev. Daniel W., Groveland. Pickering, Henry W., Boston. Pierce, Rev. Charles H., Millbury. Pierpont, Rev. John, Medford. Pike, Rev. John, Rowley.

Plumb, Rev. Albert H., Chelses. Plumb, Joseph Dart, Plumer, Mrs. Martha H., Rowley. Plummer, Israel, Whitinsville. Pond, Almira W., South Malden. Pond, John P., Boston. Pond, Mrs. Nancy, Medway. Pond, William E., Wrentham. Poor, Joseph, South Danvers. Poor, Nathan H. " Porter, Samuel S., Winchester. Pratt, Cornelius, North Weymouth. Prutt, Gulen, North Bridgewater. Pratt, Galen E. Pratt, Norton, Braintres. Pratt, Phehe, Sherborn. Pratt, Zebulon, North Middleboro'. *Prescott, William, Boston. *Prince, Rev. J. M., Georgetown. Prince, Mrs. Sarah B., Bridgewater. Pritchard, William, Newburyport. Proctor, Mrs. Lucy A., Gloucester. Proctor, Thorndike, South Danvers. Quincy, Thomas D., Dorchester. Quincy, Mrs. J. C. Rankin, Mrs. Mary ., Lowell. Read, Miss Martha, East Abington. Reed, Miss Caroline G., Haverhill. Reed, Horace, South Abington. Rice, Mrs. Agnes L., Boston. Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth C., Lawrence. Rico, Mrs. Henry A. Rice, Miss M. Augusta, Westbore'. Rich, Rev. Alonzo B., Beverly. Rich, Rev. A. Judson, Dorchester. Richards, Mrs. A. M., Litchfield, Ct. Richards, James F., Campello. Richardson, Benjamin P., Boston. Richardson, Luther, Winchester. Richardson, Miss Sarah E., Concord. Richardson, Sumner, Winchester. *Ritchie, Andrew, Jr., Buston. Robbins, Andrew, Groton. Robbins, Chandler, D. D., Beston. *Robbins, Edward H. Roberts, Rev. Jacob, East Medicay. Roberts, Mrs. Mary A., Robinson, Charles W., Auburndals. Robinson, Mrs. Clara A., Winchester. Robinson, H. W., North Bridgewater. Robinson, Rev. Reuben T., Wincheste Rockwood, John, Groton. Rockwood, Miss Polly S., Ashland. *Rogers, George, Boston. Rogers, George L., Newburyport. Rogers, Shubael G., Boston. *Rogers, Rev. William M., Besten. Russell, Sarah J., Framingham.

Ryder, Marietta, Chatham. Sanford, Mrs Adeline D., Medway Village. Safford, Rev. George B., Burlington, Ft. *Salisbury, Samuel, Boston. Sargeant, James C., Oakham. Sargent, Edmund, West Amesbury. Surgent, Lucius M., Buston. Sargent, Samuel G., Methuen. Sawtell, Mrs. Ephraim, Groton. Sawyer, Seth C., E. Randolph. *Scudder, Charles, Boston. Scudder, Mrs. Sarah L. " Seaver, A. W., Nurthboro'. Seeley, Rev. Raymond H., Haverhill. Seeley, Mrs. Fanny B. Selfridge, Thomas O., Boston. Shattuck, Andrew, Groton. Shaw, Mrs. Hannah, Boston. Sheldon, Rev. Luther II., Westboro'. Sheldon, Mrs. Sarah H. Shiverick, Miss Maria L., Campelle. *Sigourney, Andrew, Boston. Sigourney, Henry, Skillings, David N., Winchester. *Sluck, Ruggles, Boston. Slafter, Rev. Edmund F., Boston Small, Amos T., West Amesbury. Small, Samuel A., Millbury Small, Mrs. Sumner, Newton Centre. Smith, Albert W., Brookline. Smith, Mrs. Lucy Jane, " Smith, Rev. Edward P., Pepperell. Smith, Mrs. Hattie J., Gloucester. Smith, Rev. Matson M., Bridgeport, Ct. Smith, Mrs. Matson M. Smith, Norman, Groton. Smith, Richard, South Denvers. Smith, Mrs. Charlotte, " *Smith, Samuel, Boston. Smith, Mrs. Sarah, Andover. Smith, Warren N., Whitinsville. Swist, Miss Lottie H., Andever. Snow, Mrs. Caroline, Newton Corner. Snow, Mrs. Mark, Chatham. Soule, Henry M., South Abington. Southgate, Rev. Robert, Ipswick. Southgate, Mrs. Mary Frances, Ipswick. Bouthworth, Mrs. Caroline M., Medway. Spooner, W. B., Boston. Spring, Mrs. Adela C., Whitinsville. Stacy, Albert, Concord. Stebbins, Rev. Milan C., Groton. Stevens, Norman C., Newton. Stevens, Mrs. E. M. Stevens, Samuel, Gloucester. *Stoddard, Lewis T., Breokline. Stone, Andrew L., D. D., Boston.

Stone, Mrs. Matilda F., Boston.

Stone, Martha A., Newton Centre. Storre, Eunice C. Braintres. Storrs, Richard S., D. D. Stowell, Cyrus A., South Deerfield. Strong, Rev. J. C., St. Charles, Minnesota. Strong, Mrs. J. C., Sumner, Mrs. H. H., Fozboro'. Swazey, Mrs. Frances A., Lynn. Swett, Samuel W., Boston. Swift, Miss Lottie H., Andover. Tupley, Gilbert, Danvers. Tappan, John, Busten. Taylor, Mrs. Malansa, Winchester. Teele, Rev. Albert K., Milton. Teele, Mrs. Cornelia C. " Temple, Mark M., Reading. Tenney, Mrs. Mary P., Winckester. Terry, Rev. James P., South Weymouth. Thacher, Mrs. Anna B., Hyde Park. Thacher, Miss Calista C., Attlebore'. Thacher, John, 44 Thacher, Mrs. Susan C. Thacher, William T. " Thacher, Susan B., Portland, Me. *Thatcher, Mary Ludlow, Middlebore'. Thayer, Amasa, Braintres. Thayer, E. F. E. Thayer, Ira, Thayer, Mrs. Lilla, Thayor, Rev. J. Henry, Andever. Thayer, Mrs. Martha C. Thayer, Oliver, Thayer, Mrs. Jane, Boston. Thayer, Robert H., New York City. Thompson, Mrs. Emily B., Concord. Thompson, Everett A., West Amesbury. Thompson, Samuel A. Thompson, Mrs. Anne Eliza, " Thompson, George R., North Bridgewater. Thompson, Stephen, Winchester. Thurston, Rev. Richard B., S'amkeld, Ct. Tolman, Rev. Richard, Tewksbury. Tolman, Rev. Samuel H., Wilmington. Torrey, Miss Elizabeth L., South Weymouth. Torrey, James, North Weywouth. Trask, Mrs. A. H., Manchester. Trowbridge, Mrs. Asa, Brighton. Tucker, Rev. Elijah W., Lebanon, Ct. Tucker, Mrs. Hannah W. Tucker, Jesse, Millon. Tucker, Nathan, Tucker, Mrs Nathan, " Tucker, John A., Dorchester. Tucker, William, Tucker, William W., Boston. Tusts, Charles, Andover. Tuttle, Miss Sarah, Wayland.

Tuttle, Thomas S., Littleton.

Twichell, John M., Fitchburg. Tyler, Jerome W., Boston. Underhill, Rev. John W., N. Amkerst. Upton, Moses T., Salem. Vose, Miss Priscilla, Antrim, N. H. Vose, William H., Fitchburg. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. Walcott, William, Danvers. Wales, Erastus, East Randolph. Wales, Miss Mary Ann, Boston. Walker, Miss Frances A., Haverhill. Walker, Rev. George F., Wellflest. Walker, John S., East Medicay. Walker, Mrs. John 8. " Walker, Moses, Haverhill. Walker, Nathaniel, " Walker, Robert G., Boston. Walker, William M., East Abington. *Walley, Samuel H., Boston. Walley, Samuel H. Ward, Artemas, Ward, Mrs. Caroline L., Lakeville. Ward, Salem T., Winchester. Warner, William, South Deerfield. Warren, George W., Boston. Warner, John, Newton. Warren, Mrs. Diantha A., Lynn. Warren, Mrs. Maria, Grafton. *Warren, Nehemiah, Stow. Warren, Francis W. Warren, Jonas, Warren, Lucinda, Warren, William A., Winchester. Watkins, Miss Abby A., Gloucester. Weeks, Mrs. L. Caroline, West Warren. Welch, John, Boston. Weld, James, Wells, Mrs. Martha D., Northboro'. Wellman, Rev. Joshua W., Newton. Wendell, Mrs. Catharine, Boston. Wheeler, Miss Abby F., Concord. Whitcomb, Lewis, East Randolph. *Whitcomb, Reuben, Harverd. *Whitcomb, Reuhen, Jr. Whitcomb, Mrs. Abby F. *Whitcomb, Mrs. Louisa D. " Whitcomb, Miss Mary M. White, Cornelius, South Randolph.

*White, James, Boston. White, Josiah, Peterskam. White, Mrs. Mary C., Phillipston. White, Newton, East Randolph. Whitin, Charles P., Whitinsville. Whitin, Mrs. Catharine II. " Whitin, James F. Whitin, Mrs. Patience H. " Whitin, Paul, Whitin, Mrs. Sarah J. Whitin, Mrs. Serah R., Whitman, Charles, Lowell. Whitmarsh, Mary, South Abington. Whitney, Charles H., Fitchburg. Whitney, Dora S., South Groton. Whitney, Helen J., Stow. Whitney, Israel, Boston. Whitnoy, Mrs. Permelia V., Peterskam. Whitney, Richard D., Springfield. Whitney, Mrs. Susanna, Rulland. *Wigglesworth, Thomas, Beston. Wilbur, Joseph, Taunton. Wild, Daniel, Boston. Wilder, Hattie, Stow. Willcox, Rev. William H., Reading. Williams, Rev. Edward F., Whitinsville. Williams, S. H., Fozboro'. Wilson, Rev. Thomas, Stoughton. Winelow, Pelham, East Abington. Winthrop, Robert C., Boston. *Winthrop, Thomas L. Withington, Otie, Brookline. Wolcott, Mrs. Blizabeth, South Denvers. Wolcott, William, Woodbury, Simon J., Sutton. Wood, Mrs. Abijah, Westboro'. Wood, Elizabeth C., Fozboro'. Wood, Mrs. E. S., Whitinsville. Wood, Mrs. Samuel F., Chelmsford. Wood, Mrs. Susan, Groton. Woods, Miss Abbie Wheeler, Malden. Woods, Joseph Wheeler, Boston. Woods, Samuel H. Woodward, Ebenezer, Newton. Woodward, Miss Emily, Newton U. Fells. *Worthington, William, Boston. Wyman, Charles, Lancaster. Wyman, William G., Fitchburg.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

# Receipts from May 1, 1864, to May 1, 1865.

### SUFFOLK COUNTY.

	Society of	Rev.	Dr.	Adam	18, E	88eX	Street	7	•	•	<b>\$</b> 373	<b>82</b>
44	44	Rev.	Mr.	Alder	n, Bi	roadv	way,	•	•	•	78	00
44	44	Rev.	Mes	srs. B	lagde	en a	nd Ma	annir	ıg,	Old		
		Sc	outh,	,	•	•	•	•	•	•	105	<b>72</b>
66	66	Rev.	Dr.	Kirk,	Mov	int V	7ernon	۱,	•	•	84	46
66	44	Rev.	Dr.	Robb	ins,	Seco	nd Ch	urch	, .	•	330	03
46	46	Rev.	Dr.	Stone	, Par	rk St	reet,	•	•	•	176	01
66	46	Rev.	Mr.	Todd	, Wi	nter	Street	· ')	•	•	136	58
66	Baptist Be	ethel,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	5	00
44	Hon. Step	hen F	airb	anks,	(1 L.	<b>M.</b> )	•	•	•	•	25	00
"	A friend,	<b>\$</b> 10;	do. 🕻	<b>\$10</b> ; (	(1 L. :	<b>M.</b> , ir	part,	) do.	<b>\$</b> 1	73;		
	do. 🛊 1	08;	do.	<b>\$</b> 1 00	; do	. \$1	00;	do.	<b>\$</b> 1	00;		
	do. 💲0	65; d	lo. 🕻	30 50;	;	•	•	•	•	•	26	96
Chelsea,	Broadway	Chur	ch,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	70	31
										4		
										4	1,411	59
			ES	SEX	CO	UNT	Y.					
Amesbu	ry, Congre	gation						•	•	•	<b>\$</b> 33	44
	ry, Congre	_	al C	hurch	and	Soci	ie <b>ty</b> ,	•	•	•	•	<b>44</b> 00
	•	ale, Sa	al C	hurch th Sch	and	Soci	iety, soldier	•	•	•	•	00
Andover	, Ballardvi	ale, Sa ongreg	al Cabbas	hurch th Sch	and lool, lurch	Soci for a	iety, soldier Socie	ty,	•	•	5	00 20
Andover "Georgeto	, Ballardve North Co	ale, Sa ongreg Congr	al Cabbai ation	hurch th Sch nal Ch ional	and lool, lurch Chui	Soci for a and rch a	iety, soldier Socie and So	ety, ciety	-	•	5 22	00 20 00
Andover  '' Georgeto Grovelan	, Ballardve North Co wn, First	ale, Sa ongreg Congr gation	al Cabbai ation regat	hurch th Sch nal Ch tional hurch	and lool, lurch Chui and	Soci for a and rch a Soci	iety, soldier Socie and So iety, (	ety, ciety l L. 1	u.)	•	5 22 34	00 20 00 00
Andover  '' Georgeto Grovelan	North Coown, First	ale, Sa ongreg Congr gation rch ar	al Calbbai ration regation al Calbbai	hurch th Sch nal Ch tional hurch tociety	and nool, nurch Chui and , for	Soci for s and rch a Soci the	iety, soldier Socie and So iety, (	ety, ciety l L. 1 ic Bi	u.)	•	5 22 34 20	00 20 00 00 22
Andover  Georgeto Grovelan Ipswich,	North Coown, First d, Congress Church	ale, Sa ongreg Congr gation rch ar urch, (	al Cation regation of Cation S	hurch th Sch nal Ch tional hurch tociety	and nool, nurch Chui and v, for	Soci for s and rch a Soci the	iety, soldier Socie and So iety, (	ety, ciety l L. 1 ic Bi	u.)	•	5 22 34 20 41 20	00 20 00 00 22
Andover  Georgeto Grovelan Ipswich,  "	North Coown, First d, Congregifiest Church South Chi	cale, Sa congrege Congregation rch ar urch, (	al Cation regation of Cation Signature (1 L. copal	hurch th Sch nal Ch tional hurch tociety M., A.	and nool, nurch Chui and , for . B. S	Soci for s and rch a Soci the	iety, soldier Socie and So iety, (	ety, ciety l L. 1 ic Bi	u.)	•	5 22 34 20 41 20	00 20 00 00 22 00
Andover  Georgeto Grovelan Ipswich,    Lawrence	North Coown, First d, Congress Church Church Methodist	ce Street	al Cation regation of Signature Categorian C	hurch th Sch nal Ch ional hurch ociety M., A. Church	and nool, nurch Chui and , for . B. s cch,	Sociand and Social the	iety, soldier Socie and So iety, ( Arabi part,)	ety, ciety l L. 1 ic Bi	u.)	•	5 22 34 20 41 20 7	00 20 00 00 22 00 00 61
Andover  Georgeto Grovelan Ipswich,   Lawrenc Lynn, Fi	North Coown, First d, Congrest Church South Church Methodist e, Lawrence	ce Stree	al Cation regation of Single Cation Single C	hurch th Sch nal Ch ional hurch ociety M., A. Church	and nool, nurch Chui and , for . B. s cch,	Sociand and Social the	iety, soldier Socie and So iety, ( Arabi part,)	ety, ciety l L. 1 ic Bi	u.)	•	5 22 34 20 41 20 7 85 18	00 20 00 00 22 00 00 61
Andover  Georgeto Grovelan Ipswich,   Lawrenc Lynn, Fi Lynnfiel	North Coown, First d, Congrest Church Church Methodist e, Lawrence irst Congrest Con	ce Streethord	al Cation regat al Cat	hurch th Sch nal Ch ional hurch ociety M., A l Church church	and nool, nurch Chui and , for . B. s ch,	Sociand Social the Social Soci	iety, soldier Socie and So iety, ( Arabi part,) . iety,	ety, ciety l L. 1 ic Bi	u.)	•	5 22 34 20 41 20 7 85 18	00 20 00 00 22 00 00 61 33 50

Newburyport, North Congregational Church and Society, .	<b>\$</b> 48	00
" First Presbyterian Church, (2 L. M.)	56	00
"Belleville, Congregational Church and Society,	74	<b>22</b>
Salem, A friend,	25	00
" Crombie Street Church,	61	
" South Church,	<b>5</b> 1	
South Onurch,	74	
	40	
West Newbury, Second Parish, (2 L. M.)	10	<del></del>
	\$ 800	61
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.	<b>4</b> 000	<b>V A</b>
Auburndale, Congregational Church and Society,	<b>\$</b> 39	11
	<b>တု</b> ပေ	**
Cambridge, Shepard Congregational Society, on Bible account,	***	10
<b>\$34</b> ;	118	18
Cambridgeport, First Evangelical Congregational Church and		
Society,	83	00
Charlestown, Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church,	22	<b>23</b>
Concord, Union Bible Society, (1 L. M.)	160	00
Dunstable, Congregational Church and Society,	5	00
Dracut, West Church, (1 L. M., in part,)	13	00
Framingham, Hollis Evangelical Church,	<i>5</i> 8	
Saxonville, Edwards Church, (1 L. M.)	22	
Groton, Union Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	77	
	• • •	01
Holliston, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.,	40	<b>*</b> **
A. B. 8.)	40	73
Hopkinton, Congregational Church and Society, \$24; Infant		
class in Sabbath School, for soldiers, \$3;	27	00
Littleton, Congregational Church and Society, (balance for		
1 L. M.)	15	00
Lowell, Kirk Street Church,	100	40
Malden, South Congregational Church and Society,	11	<b>82</b>
Medford, Mystic Church,	21	60
Newton, West, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.).	76	05
Pepperell, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	12	
Sherborn, Reading and Benevolent Society, (bal. for 1 L. M.)	10	
South Reading, First Congregational Church and Society,		
(2 L. M.)	50	00
Townsend, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,		61
Waltham, Congregational Church and Society,		10
Waverly, Mrs. J. W. Turner, (1 L. M., in part,)		00
Wayland, Evangelical Church and Society,	24	45
West Cambridge, Orthodox Congregational Church and So-		
ciety, on Bible account, \$6 60, donation,	209	98
Wilmington, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) .	20	07
Winchester, Congregational Church and Society, (5 L. M.) .	113	30
Woburn, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	50	00
	<b>\$</b> 1,415	65

# WORCESTER COUNTY.

n n 11 1.6	.•	1 01	•		• .		_	4 -	
Barre, Evangelical Congrega					-	, .	•		35
Fitchburg, Congregational C				• •				86	80
Grafton, Evangelical Congr	egatic	onal (	Chur	ch án	id So	ciet <b>y</b> ,	(2		
L. M.)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	60	00
Harvard, Evangelical Congr	egatio	onal C	hur	ch an	d Soc	iety,	•	23	75
Lunenburg, Evangelical Con	ngreg	ationa	1 Ch	urch	and S	Society	7,	8	25
Northbridge, Congregationa	l Chu	irch ai	nd S	ociety	7, .	•	•	13	20
Leominster, Evangelical Con	ngreg	ationa	l Ch	urch	and a	Societ	y,	33	00
Oakham, Congregational Ch					•	•	~ -	21	31
New Braintree, Congregatio				•	etv.	•	_	18	00
Royalston, First Congregati					•	•	-	76	
" South Congrega					_	•	•	-	42
Sturbridge, Congregational					cicly	, •	•	45	
				•	•	•	•	17	
Spencer, Congregational Chu				•	•	•	•		
Upton, Congregational Chu	ren ai				•	•	•	11	
Uxbridge, A lady, .	•		•		•	•	•	3	00
" First Congregation	onal C	Church	and	1 Soci	iety,	(1 L. )	<u>-</u>		
A. B. S.) .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	60	00
Webster, First Congregation	al Ch	urch	and	Socie	ty,	•	•	17	05
Westboro', Evangelical Chu	rch a	nd So	ciet <b>y</b>	, (3 I	<b>w</b> .)	•	•	60	00
Westminster, Congregational	l Chu	rch ar	nd So	ociety	, (for	A. B. 6	s.)	77	35
Whitinsville, Congregations	d Ch	urch	and i	Socie	ty, (1	2 L. 3	۲.,		
A. B. S.)	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 4	56	60
•									
							\$ 1,1	37	58
<b>N</b> O	<b>RF</b> O	LK C	OUI	NTY.			\$ 1,1	37	58
NO: Dedham, South, Congregati						•	-	37 23	
Dedham, South, Congregati	onal (	Churc	h an	d Soc	eiet <b>y</b> ,		. \$	23	32
Dedham, South, Congregati Dorchester, Second Church,	onal (	Churc 70;	h an Sabb	d Soc	ciet <b>y,</b> chool	<b>, \$</b> 1 0	. <b>\$</b>	<b>23</b> 76	<b>32</b> 70
Dedham, South, Congregational Dorchester, Second Church, Foxborough, Congregational	onal ( \$175 l Chu	Churc 70;	h an Sabb nd S	d Society	ciety, chool 7, (2	, <b>\$</b> 1 0 L. <b>X</b> .)	. \$	23 76 59	32 70 00
Dedham, South, Congregation Dorchester, Second Church, Foxborough, Congregational Chranklin, Congregational Chronic Ch	onal ( \$175 l Chu urch	Churc 70; rch ar and S	h an Sabb nd So ociet	d Society	ciety, chool 7, (2 1 L. x.,	, <b>\$</b> 1 0 L. M.) A. B. 6	. <b>\$</b> 0; 1	23 76 59 30	32 70 00 20
Dedham, South, Congregation Dorchester, Second Church, Foxborough, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, C	onal ( \$175 l Chu lurch	Churc 70; rch ar and S B. s.)	h an Sabb nd So ociet	d Society	chool 7, (2 1	, \$1 0 L. M.) A. B. 6	. <b>\$</b> 0; 1	23 76 59	32 70 00 20
Dedham, South, Congregation Dorchester, Second Church, Foxborough, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, Congwood, A friend, (1 L. Miss Hannah Han	onal ( \$175 l Chu nurch (., A. Hoope	Churc 70; arch an and S B. s.)	h an Sabb nd Societ	d Society  ociety, (1:	chool 7, (2) L. M., the	, \$1 0 L. M.) A. B. & Bible	. <b>\$</b> 0; 1 5.) in	23 76 59 30 30	32 70 00 20 00
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Dedham, South, Congregation Dorchester, Second Church, Foxborough, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, Congregation Church, Church, Church, Church, Church, Church, Church, Congregation Church, Churc	onal ( \$175 l Chu urch L., A. loope M., A. churc	Church 70; strch ar and S. B. S.) er, for B. S.) hurch	h an Sabb nd Societ prin and	d Society y, (1: ting Soci	chool (, (2) L. M., the	, \$1 0 L. M.) A. B. 6 Bible	o; 1 s.) in	23 76 59 30 30 1 33 33 32 50 89	32 70 00 20 00 00 75 76 83 00 10
Dedham, South, Congregation Dorchester, Second Church, Foxborough, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, Congregational Church,	onal ( \$175 l Chu urch (,, A. Hoope M., A. l L. M hal Ch churc	Church 70; streh and S. s.) er, for B. s.) hurch ch, (1	h an Sabb nd Scociet prin and	d Society oxig, (1: ating . Soci	chool (, (2) L. M., the	, \$1 0 L. M.) A. B. 6 Bible (1 L. 1	0; 1 3.) in	23 76 59 30 30 33 33 32 50 89	32 70 00 20 00 00 75 76 83 00 10 25
Dedham, South, Congregation Dorchester, Second Church, Foxborough, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, Congregational Church, Church	onal ( \$175 l Chu urch L. M hal Ch churc	Church 70; strch and S. s.) er, for B. s.) hurch ch, (1	h an Sabbad Sabb	d Society oxig, (1: ating . Soci	chool (, (2) L. M., the	, \$1 0 L. M.) A. B. 6 Bible (1 L. 1	0; 1 3.) in	23 76 59 30 30 1 33 32 50 89 23	32 70 00 20 00 00 75 76 83 00 10 25 32
Dedham, South, Congregation Dorchester, Second Church, Foxborough, Congregational Franklin, Congregational Ch Longwood, A friend, (1 L. ) Miss Hannah E Arabic, (1 L. ) Medfield, A friend, Medway, Village Church, (1 East Congregation A. B. S.) Randolph, East, Winthrop C First Church, First Church, Harry Wills, Walpole, Congregational Ch Weymouth, South, Congreg	onal ( \$175 l Chu urch L. M hal Ch churc	Church 70; strch and S. s.) er, for B. s.) hurch ch, (1 and S.	h an Sabbad Sabb	d Society oxid sty, ating ty, and s	chool (, (2) L. M., the	, \$1 0 L. M.) A. B. 6 Bible (1 L. 1	o; 1	23 76 59 30 30 1 33 32 50 89 23 15	32 70 00 20 00 00 75 76 83 00 10 25 32 00
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#### HAMPSHIRE COUNTY. Easthampton, Payson Church and Society, . **8** 152 70 HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY. Mr. Roderick Burt, Springfield, Tr. Chicopee, Third Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M. A. B. 8., in part,) **3** 74 50 Miss Taylor, (1 L. M., A. B. S., in part,). **5 00** Three Rivers, H. J. Kelley, . . . 1 00 Westfield, Methodist Episcopal Church, 21 00 Other Donations, . *5*77 86 On Bible account, . . \$ 217 64 **\$** 679 36 FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY. Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr. Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society, **\$** 10 30 Bernardston, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, (for A. B. S.) 6 00 Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, (for A. B. S.) **22 00** Charlemont, East, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) 20 00 Conway, Congregational Church and Society, of which to furnish Bibles for soldiers, \$13 38;. 63 11 Deerfield, South, Samuel D. Billings, (1 L. M.) 20 00 Monument Church, 10 00 Gill, Congregational Church and Society, 5 05 Greenfield, First Congregational Church and Society, (for 21 85 A. B. 8.) . Second Congregational Church and Society, (for A. B. S.) . 37 80 Hon. Wm. B. Washburn, (1 L. M.) 20 00 Montague, Congregational Church and Society, (for A. B. S.) 30 50 Northfield, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society, (for A. B. S.) . 1 50 Shelburne, Estate of Zerah Hawkes, 100 00 Congregational Church and Society, Gent. Associ-" ation, \$22 20; ladies' do. \$19 75; . 41 95 Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society, . 9 45 Warwick, Trinitarian Society, (for A. B. S.) . 8 00 West Hawley, Congregational Church and Society, (for A. B. s.) 10 00 Whately, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., in

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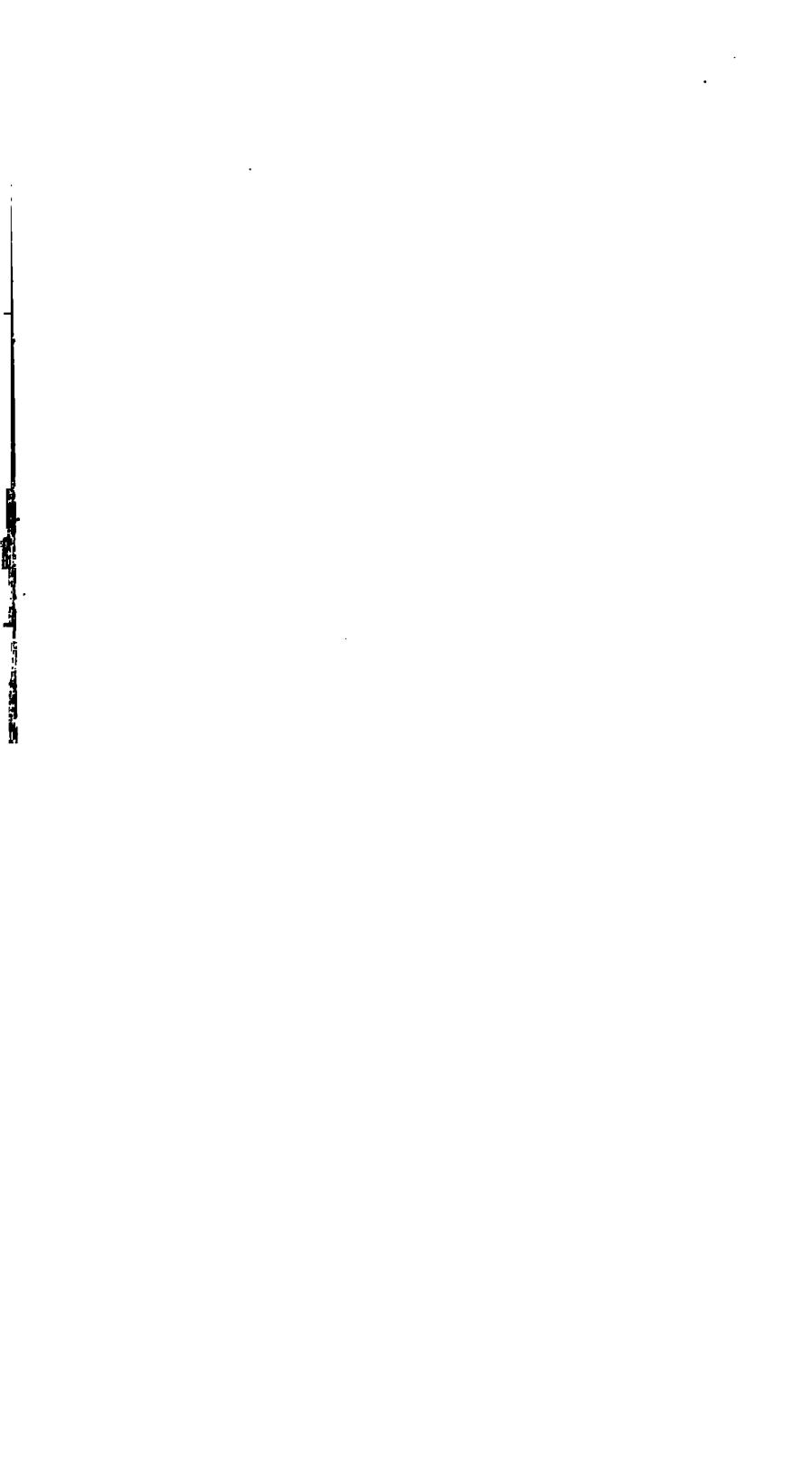
part,) .

# BRISTOL COUNTY.

BRISTOL COUNTY.		
Taunton, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society, .	<b>\$</b> 45	00
PLYMOUTH COUNTY.		
Hanson, Miss Tamar C. Thomas, (2 L. M., A. B. S.)	<b>\$</b> 60	00
Hingham, A friend,	5	00
Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society,	11	00
Marshfield, First Congregational Church and Society,	10	00
Middleboro', North, Congregational Church and Society, (2		
L. M.)	40	45
Pilgrim Conference,	27	80
	\$ 154	<b>25</b>
BARNSTABLE COUNTY.	-	
Barnstable, Centreville, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 14	23
Chatham, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	24	35
Falmouth, First Church, \$27 78; Oliver Swift, \$5; Mrs.		
Bethia Gifford, \$1;	<b>3</b> 3	78
East, Congregational Church and Society,	12	<b>50</b>
Wellfleet, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	32	47
" Methodist Episcopal Church,	21	87
"South, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	20	00
	<b>\$</b> 159	20
MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS.		
Derry, Mrs. Sally Choate, (1 L. M., A. B. S.)	\$ 30	00
Exeter, N. H., A friend,	36	00
Antrim, N. H., Mrs. Priscilla Vose, (1 L. M.)	20	00
Children in the Baptist Sabbath school, for		
soldiers,	12	30
Henniker, N. H., A friend,	6	00
Bennington, N. H., F. M. Whittemore,	10	00
New England Conference of M. E. Church,	373	16
Thetford, Vt., Miss Lucy Child, (1 L. M., in part,)	5	00
Walpole, N. H., Simeon Perry,	25	00
A friend,	<u>l</u>	00
	\$ 518	46
COLLECTIONS.		
By the Rev. E. F. SLAFTER, Agent of the American Bible So	ciety.	
•	<b>@</b> 14	00
Church of the Ascension, Fall River,	db 1-∓	
Church of the Ascension, Fall River,	28	10
Ohanah of the Massich Daston	-	
Church of the Messiah, Boston,	28	23

,								
Grace Church, Lawrence,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. \$ 25	82
St. Peter's Church, Salem,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 39	04
Calvary Church, Danvers,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 5	57
Christ Church, Hyde Park,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 10	90
St. Thomas' Church, Taunto	n,	•	•	•	•	•	. 40	00
Grace Church, Newton Corn	er,	•	•	•	•	•	. 20	10
From C.,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 10	00
St. James's Church, Roxbur	y,	•	•	•	•	•	. 100	00
St. Mary's Church, Newton	Lowe	r Fal	lls,	•	•	•	. 92	65
Christ Church, Fitchburg,	•	•	,	•	•	•	. 20	00
The Rev. J. S. Copley Green	e,	•	•	•	•	•	. 50	00
St. John's Church, Jamaica	Plain,		•	•	•	•	. 175	00
Emmanuel Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 964	85
St. Matthew's Church, South	h Bost	ton,	•	•	•	•	. 7	<b>50</b>
Trinity Church, Melrose,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 10	00
Trinity Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 764	00
St. Paul's Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 769	00
Christ Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 9	00
St. Mary's Church, Dorches	ter,	•	•	•	•	•	. 20	00
All Saints' Church, Worcest	er,	•	•	•	•	•	. 32	<b>59</b>
							<b>A</b> 0.007	
							<b>\$</b> 3,327	11
	LEC	3ACI	ES.					
Boston, Mrs. Waldo, by Mr.	Geo.	н. 1	Kuhn,	Ex'r	•	•	. \$ 983	17
Dartmouth, Mrs. Clarissa Be							•	
Newton, Mr. Elisha Field,	•							00
Smithfield, R. I., Amy Moor							_	
West Roxbury, Mrs. Bradst	_							
••	·					•	<del></del> -	
							<b>\$</b> 1,531	04
Annual subscriptions, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	. \$ 280	00
Interest and dividends, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 1,973	<b>50</b>
Returned for books donated,								74
Sales,				•				
•							•	

Pecuniary remittances and letters relating to the business of the Depository, and orders for Books, should be addressed to S. T. FARWELL, Agent, No. 15 Cornhill, Boston.



# ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY

# THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

# MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY,

# AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING

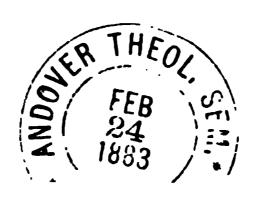
IN BOSTON,

MAY 28, 1866, BRING THEIR FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON, 42 CONGRESS STREET.

1866.



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OF THE

# MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY, 1866-67.

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Rev. John O. Means, Albert Framing, and Charles Henry Parker.

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	PRESID	ENTS.	
Rev. John Pierce, D. D	1809—27 1827—49 1849—54	Hon. Richard Fletcher, Hon. Samuel H. Walley,	1854 <b>—59</b> 1859
VIC	E PRES	SIDENTS.	
Rev. John Lathrop, D. D Rev. John T. Kirkland, D. D Rev. Henry Ware, D. D Rev. John Codman, D. D Hon. Simon Greenleaf, LL. D Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D	1809—16 1816—28 1828—44 1844—48 1848—49 1849—53 1853—61 1861 1862 1862 1862	William B. Washburn, Esq. Stephen Salisbury, Esq. Charles Whitin, Esq. Lee Claffin, Esq. Caleb Holbrook, Esq. James S. Amory, Esq. Hon. John H. Clifford, LL. D. Elisha Tucker, Esq. James B. Crocker, Esq. E. S. Moseley, Esq.	1862 1862 1862 1862 1862 1862 1862 1862
CORRESPO Rev. Joseph Stevens Buckminster, Rev. Samuel C. Thacher, Rev. Charles Lowell, D. D	, 1809—13 1813—17	SRCRETARIES.  Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D.  Rev. N. L. Frothingham, D. D.  Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D.	1818—49 1849—53 1853
RECOR	DING 81	ECRETARIES.	
Rev. John Pierce, D. D Rev. Daniel Sharp, D. D Rev. Cyrus P. Grosvenor, Rev. James D. Knowles, Rev. William Jenks, D. D	1809—28 1828—30 1830—31 1831—32 1832—39	Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D. Rev. William M. Rogers, Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D. Rev. George Richards, Rev. Daniel Butler,	1839—44 1844—45 1845—49 1849—52 1852
•	TREASU	RERS.	
Samuel H. Walley, Esq Hon. Peter O. Thacher, John Tappan, Esq	20.0 00 [	Henry Edwards, Esq George R. Sampson, Esq Charles Henry Parker, Esq	
EXECU	TIVE C	OMMITTEES.	
Rev. William E. Channing, D. D. Hon. Jonathan Phillips, Stephen Higginson, Esq Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D Edward Tuckerman, Esq Rev. Henry Ware, Jr., D. D Rev. Benjamin B. Wisner, D. D. Charles Tappan, Esq	1809—18 1809—16 1809—15 1815—18 1816—30 1818—30 1821—35 1830—40	Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D. Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D. Henry Edwards, Esq Rev. George Richards, George R. Sampson, Esq Albert Fearing, Esq Rev. John O. Means, Charles Henry Parker, Esq	1832—53 1835—49 1840—49 1849—60 1849—63 1853 1860 1862

# ANNUAL REPORT.

In presenting their Fifty-Seventh Annual Report, the Trustees of the Massachusetts Bible Society, would gratefully acknowledge the divine goodness, in allowing them to prosecute their labors through an entire year of peace. None of the Bibles we have given away this year have been stained by the blood of the recipient, or trampled beneath the hoof of cruel, relentless war. Over an undivided country we have prosecuted our labors, and scattered, as the means and opportunities afforded us have allowed, those leaves of the tree of life, which are to be for the healing of our nation.

There have been issued from the Depository during the past year, forty thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven volumes. Of this number, twelve thousand six hundred and ninety-one were Bibles; fifteen thousand four hundred and thirty-six, Testaments; six thousand and forty-one, Testaments with the Psalms, and the remainder were smaller portions of the Scriptures. Of these, twelve hundred and thirty-two were in various foreign languages.

The gratuitous circulation has amounted to ten thousand five hundred and twenty-six volumes, costing \$3,811.50. Of these, thirty-three hundred and thirty-seven were Bibles; four thousand three hundred and sixty-five were Testaments; nineteen hundred and ninety-four, Testaments with the Psalms; the remainder in smaller portions of the Scriptures. Sailors, soldiers, City Missions, destitute Sabbath schools, public institutions, and public houses, poor and unsupplied families and individuals in our own and other States, have largely, as usual, received this charity.

A new class of claimants upon the gifts of the Society has recently appeared. Six hundred and thirty-two volumes we report as having been given to the freedmen; a work whose beginning we hail with gratitude, and to the prosecution of which every instinct of humanity and religion impels us. Comparatively few Bibles will ever go to this class of persons from our Depository, as they can be more conveniently procured at New York; but we anticipate the speedy coming of the time, when our gifts to this cause, through the National Society, shall be largely appropriated by this interesting class of our fellow men.

By reference to previous Reports of the Society, it will be seen that the numbers above given, while greatly in advance of those of any year previous to the war, are less than those reported for the past five years. This decrease of issues is due largely to the lessened demand by the soldiers and sailors

in the public service, and is confined to the New Testament and portions of the Scriptures; the number of Bibles circulated this year being but a few hundred less than in 1863, when the number of volumes issued by the Society amounted to more than sixty-six thousand.

The systematic distribution of the Scriptures in the State, which was suspended during the war, has been resumed. The Rev. A. M. Osgood is now engaged in the canvas of Barnstable County, and from its favorable beginning, we anticipate happy results. The work will be extended to other parts of the State.

The income of the Society, including a balance on hand at the beginning of the year, of \$2,253.48, and \$5,000 from invested funds, has been \$36,-769.13.

In addition to the receipts above mentioned, there has been sent from different parts of the State directly to the Treasury of the American Bible Society, the further sum of \$14,129.30, making the whole amount contributed in Massachusetts, deducting the above balance, \$48,644.95.

The expenditures have been as follows: for Bibles, \$20,026.14; for General Agent, Depository Agent, and Assistant, paper, printing, rent, &c., \$4,904.42; donations to the American Bible Society, of which \$5,000 were given to aid in printing the Bible in Arabic, \$9,715.16; leaving a balance in the Treasury of \$2,123.41.

The Episcopal Churches in the State have been

visited by Mr. Slafter, and their response has been prompt and liberal.

The American Bible Society, with which ours is connected as an Auxiliary, has just closed its Fiftieth or Jubilee year. As appropriate to the occurrence of such a period, the Society, in addition to its ordinary labors, has devoted the year especially, in the Domestic Department, to supplying the South, including the freed people, with the Scriptures, and in the Foreign Department, the electrotyping and printing the Arabic and Spanish A series of sermons has also been Scriptures. delivered, setting forth the value of the Scriptures, and the duty of giving them to the world. Special meetings have been held in various parts of the country, and special contributions made in aid of the objects named. The purpose announced in our last Annual Report, of giving five thousand dollars from our invested funds, in aid of printing the Arabic Scriptures, was carried into effect early in the past year. There is reason to believe that by these means a deeper interest has been awakened in this work, and a permanent impulse imparted to its movements. The recent Anniversary of the Society formed a fitting close to the labors of the year. Delegates specially chosen for this service from the British and Foreign Bible Society, from Bible Societies in France, and the Canadas, and from numerous Auxiliaries in our own country, were in attendance, with eloquent words of greeting and congratulation. Our own Society, we are

happy to say, was most acceptably represented on the occasion. The history of the American Bible Society is a true exponent of the growth of our country, and of the expanding work of Christianity in our day. Beginning with the circulation of a few thousands of Bibles annually, it has gained new strength with the growing demands made upon it, and on its Fiftieth Anniversary, was able to report an issue of eleven hundred and fifty thousand volumes, in fifty languages and dialects. In the fifty years of its existence as a Society, it has received into its Treasury ten millions and a half of dollars, and sent out on their mission of mercy, more than twenty-one millions of copies of the Scriptures. More than five thousand auxiliary and branch societies, with fifteen thousand voluntary local agents or Bible visitors, gather up the offerings of its friends, and seek out the neglected and destitute in every part of the land. Three hundred and seven thousand families are reported as visited the past year. Its laborers are found in the recesses of the Rocky Mountains, on the shores of the Pacific, and among the homes scattered over our new States and Territories, and as yet unblest by the ordinary means of grace. They greet the emigrant as he lands upon our shores, and help him on his way by putting into his hands that which may guide him to the possession of the true riches. In the foreign field its work is large, and constantly increasing. Its simple aim is to furnish the destitute at home and abroad with the

Scriptures, and in its labors and success we see illustrated the spirit of the age and the favoring providence of God.

The British and Foreign Bible Society has enjoyed a year of great prosperity, having received the sum of \$850,000 into its treasury, and circulated not less than three millions of volumes, in all the principal languages spoken in the world. We rejoice in the prosperity which attends this venerable Society, now pre-eminent among the agencies employed for the diffusion of truth through the world, and we are happy to welcome to our meeting to-day one who has come to present the salutations of that Society to similar Associations in our Western world.

The Massachusetts Bible Society is among the oldest of the associations formed for the circulation of the Scriptures. Our fathers heartily engaged in this work, and being dead, they yet speak in the eloquent words they uttered in its behalf, and in the liberal gifts they bestowed. May we not hope that the spirit which animated them will live in their children, and will seek expression in appropriate acts. It is a matter of surprise that so many among us who regard the Scriptures as a divine revelation, and their possession as essential to man's present and future well being, statedly withhold all aid from this object. Confident that another spirit is one day to prevail, we long and pray for its speedy coming. The present surely is no time for inaction. The war which for years

desolated us is indeed over. But the world's grand conflict still remains. Unregulated appetites and passions and pride and oppression and selfishness and Sabbath breaking and unbelief drive their manacled victims over every part of our land. Loudly are we summoned to draw the sword of the Spirit, and to contend earnestly for the truth of the divine Word, which many among us do not profess, and which more have failed in the love of it to receive.

## ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Fifty-seventh Annual Meeting of the MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY was held at No. 15 Cornhill, on Monday, May 28, 1866, at 9 o'clock, A. M. The President, Hon. Samuel H. Walley, in the chair.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. WILLIAM JENKS, D. D.

The Treasurer, Charles Henry Parker, Esq., presented his Annual Report, which was read and accepted.

The Fifty-seventh Annual Report of the Trustees was presented, and it was

Voted, That the reading of the same be deferred till the public meeting this afternoon.

The Officers of the Society were elected for the ensuing year.

The Society then adjourned to attend the public services of the Fifty-seventh anniversary, at the Mount Vernon Church, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Scriptures were read, and prayer offered, by Rev. Daniel R. Cady, of West Cambridge.

The Report of the Trustees was read and accepted.

Rev. Thomas Nolan, D. D., incumbent of St. Peter's Church, London, was then introduced by the President, as a delegate from the British and Foreign Bible Society, who proceeded to address the assembly substantially as follows:

#### ADDRESS OF REV. THOMAS NOLAN.

### Mr. President and Christian Friends:

The only claim which I possess to the kind manner in which my name has been mentioned to this meeting, and to the no less kind indulgence that I anticipate from your hands, is the fact of the official position which it is my privilege and honor to fill, in connection with my respected and valued colleague, Rev. Dr. Phillips, minister of the Presbyterian Welch Church in England, who is unable to attend this meeting to-day, however willing to do so, because his countrymen in America, more especially in the Western States, have filled up his time. He has no less than forty-eight meetings of the American Bible Society to attend before the month of July, when his presence is required at home. The task, then, rests upon me, however feeble and inefficient, of representing, God helping me, the sympathy and hearty good will of your friends and co-laborers in England in this grand and blessed work.

It is really, Sir, a matter of great gratification to me individually, and it must be a matter of great gratification to all interested in this work, to find how completely the British and Foreign Bible Society, and the American Bible Society,—and, I take it, your own Massachusetts Bible Society,—are one in principle, one in object, and one in the detail by which their operations are carried on. I confess that I have been greatly encouraged, as I have discovered more and more the extraordinary sympathy and unanimity of purpose and action that have characterized the proceedings of these two great institutions, at the opposite extremes of the Atlantic ocean. I deem it a matter of no ordinary privilege that I have been selected to visit this country as the representative, in part, of the British and Foreign Bible Society, at this time. It was not for me to comment upon the wisdom of those who selected me. It was for me to consider, and to bring humbly before God, in prayer, the responsibility of accepting such a mission, and, perhaps, the no less responsibility of declining a duty which friends pressed upon me; and I resolved, in God's name, to come. I am thankful to God that he put it into my heart, and gave me an opportunity, to come; and, as long as I live, I can never forget the extraordinary Christian sympathy, and considerate, indulgent kindness which both my colleague and myself have received at the hands of our Christian brethren ever since it was our privilege to touch the soil, the free soil, of the continent of America. My warmest prayer and sympathy, as long as the heart is able to conceive or the mind to express a prayer, must be engaged in everything that affects the prosperity or the prospects of this great and wondrous country. And, Sir, we find in the great object in which we are engaged,—the circulation of God's blessed Word, a guaranty for the continuance of that feeling. There is unanimity of purpose; for we have the same object in view. is unanimity, also, as to the manner in which that purpose is to be carried out. We have likewise the same difficulties to encounter; the same enemy to oppose us; the same Master to serve; the same rewards to look for; and these, too, upon so large a scale and spread over so large a field as to render rivalry impossible, except that holy rivalry as to who shall serve their Lord most, and who shall love their Master best. we are commissioned to deliver in the most earnest and urgent terms that we could command, the sympathy and respect and hearty good feeling and prayers of the Board of the British and Foreign Bible Society in London, to the Board of the American Bible Society here. And no less would the same sympathy have been extended to the Board of your Massachusetts Bible Society, because I find that you were in the field seven years before your brethren in New York; and we in England cannot but go back a couple of centuries to the landing upon Plymouth rock, nor fail to remember that you are the successors of the Pilgrim Fathers, and inherit their work. Our great historian, Lord Macaulay, says that any people who are indifferent to the great deeds of those who have gone before, are not likely to perform deeds to be remembered by those who follow them. I do not anticipate any such defalcation on your part. I look upon the earnestness with which you have carried on this work as the guarantee that, thanking God and taking courage, and trusting in Him who has hitherto helped you, you will go forward in the great work; and be assured that He will not leave or forsake you, if you still trust in Him. The work is one of the most glorious in which man can be engaged. The differences that separate and keep us asunder are lost sight of; we rise to a loftier eminence, we behold a wider horizon, and are able to overlook the petty distinctions that divide us, and feel ourselves part of the great family of Christian men. We would apply to all who come within our reach the great instrumentality, and the only one,—which is simple, but mighty,—the Word of God and prayer; the Word of God being the sword of the Spirit, and prayer being the arm of faith, by which that sword is to be wielded and to be made use of.

Now, Sir, it is known and felt by this audience, that no other object contributes so much to the maintenance and spread of the glory of God, or extends so much of benefit and good to man. God condescends to take glory from the salvation of his poor, helpless, lost creatures here. There is only one salvation. There is no other name under heaven but the one name, Jesus, whereby the sinner can be saved, whether in the wild prairie of your great country, or in the crowded fastnesses of our own old home. There is no new salvation; no tidings but of that one Saviour, which is Jesus Christ the Lord; and there is no reliable record wherein the tidings of that Saviour are to be read, except in the Scriptures of Truth, the word of the living God; and the beauty and preciousness of that word consists in the testimony that it yields to Jesus. You find him, Sir, in the simplicity of the patriarchal worship; you find him in the complexity of the Mosaic ritual; you find the same Saviour in the sweet songs and sublime strains of David and Isaiah; you find him in the simple narrative of the evangelical history, and the closely reasoned argument of the apostolic Epistles; you find him in the visions of the Apocalypse;—you find Jesus as the golden thread that runs through from the beginning to the end, proving that the word is God's word, by the testimony which it gives of his Son. You find that it is the power of God to salvation, by the fact that it subdues the tendency of the carnal heart to what is evil, attracting men, contrary to their fallen nature, to everything that is lovely and of good report. In your fifty years of labor, (to limit ourselves within the history of your society,) enough has been done to show that your labor "is not in vain in the Lord;" and, alas! enough remains yet to be done to stimulate you in your efforts, and to send you on your way rejoicing.

Now, Sir, it is a matter of no ordinary thankfulness,—I believe it to be fraught with benefits untold to the nations of the earth,—that the two great Protestant countries of the world, England and America,—the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the United States of America,—I believe it to be of importance to the well-being of man, as man,—of humanity, regarded as such, without reference to complexion or clime, Barbarian, Scythian, bond or free, male or female,—I believe it to be, I say, of importance to the well-being of all, that these two kingdoms should be united together in the bonds of mutual respect, mutual confidence, mutual affection, and, standing shoulder to shoulder, and overlooking all petty hindrances and petty differences, go forth as the evangelists of the world, and the heralds of God's truth to the salvation of man.

It is a matter of no ordinary consequence, of no ordinary importance, that this sympathy and good feeling is cultivated and strengthened between these two great organizations. providence of God, placed at the opposite side of the world, you have erected the banner of Protestant truth. The great enemy of that truth, here as across the water, is the Church of Rome. This is not the place, and it would occupy too much time, to enter upon the dark page of that Church's history; for her's is the story that blotteth the leaves. I would rather confine myself to joyous and cheerful subjects on this occasion. But we know that that Church is, on its own principle, opposed to the circulation of God's word. We know that it dare not say so openlythat would be to throw off the mask; but we know, and it knows better than we, that while its doctrines are deceitful and dangerous and delusive, there is no other power upon the earth whereby those doctrines can be stemmed and repelled but the power and blessing of God's own word, and that because it is God's word. He says, 'My word shall not return void.'

It is not to the eloquence of the preacher, it is not to the

learning of the scholar, it is not to the skill of the critic, that the blessing is promised, but simply to the might and majesty that belong to the Bible, as God's revealed word. word to us, as much as if He spake from heaven, as he did from the cloud over the Mount of Transfiguration, saying, "This is my beloved Son; hear him;" or as he did over the waters of Jordan, when he proclaimed, "Jesus, my son, in whom I am well pleased." God speaks to us in that blessed book to-day. It has been sifted, its evidence has been weighed, it has been weighed in the balance of centuries; it has been exposed to the skeptic's scoff and the infidel's sneer, but only to shine the brighter, the deeper the investigation has been made. And we find that these attacks that are from time to time made are reproductions of old things. "The thing that hath been is the thing that shall be, and there is no new thing under the sun." I confess with shame that a Bishop of our own Church has been the last assailant of that blessed book; but the Bishop's volume will be covered with dust, and moths devour its leaves, and still the Bible Society, with its millions of issues, shall go forth to the ends of the world, to herald joy and peace to the welcoming nations of the earth. The number of books that have been circulated, the number of volumes that have been printed, have been detailed to you; but, alas! what are they in comparison with the vast family of men still in ignorance, still in want, and, like Ethiopia, "stretching out their hands to God!" has been made, in the admirable Report to which you have just listened with such profound and deserved attention, to the great work now in progress in the Bible House at New York,—I mean, the publication of an Arabic version of the Scriptures.

The British and Foreign Bible Society have been glad to accept your generously proffered help, and to follow your example, to tread in the steps you have made. Need I tell you that from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and fifty millions of our fellow creatures are approachable through no other channel? that their superstition, or prejudice, or habit, is so strong, that, unless you address them in the dialect of the Koran, they will pay no attention to anything that you may offer them? Now, the distinguished Dr. Smith, who has gone to his rest and his

reward before witnessing the completion of what he had the spirit to begin, and Dr. Van Dyck, who is still living, have completed that great work, the plates are electrotyped, and the American Bible Society have consented to give to the British and Foreign Society as many of the electrotype plates as they wish of the ten editions which they have ready for publication. They have imposed but one condition upon the gift, and that they were bound to make, and we should have been diligent to observe it if it had not been made; namely, that we would make no alteration in the plates as we received them, except with the consent and concurrence of the Board of Managers of the American Society. It is a generous interchange. It shows a loftiness of spirit that is able to overlook narrow jealousies and rivalries; and though the British and Foreign Bible Society is twelve years in advance of the American Bible Society, it is quite willing to accept help from its mature daughter, to regard her as a sister rather than a daughter, and engage in the great work hand in hand that presents itself before them. Before this undertaking could be contemplated in the light of a success, • it was discovered that at the rate the printing press in Beyroot and Smyrna was advancing, it would take six thousand years to put a copy of the Scriptures in every man's hands who needed them, and was able to read them; and even as it is, with all the magnificent appliances which your printing house in Astor Place possesses,—and surely it is a grand thing, that one of the largest buildings in your great metropolis is devoted to the service of God,—it would take six hundred years to put a Bible in the hand of every Mohammedan who can read it. They are all able to read it. It is a part of their religion to be able to read the Koran; and, however the dialects of the country may vary, the written and printed word is the same; so that never was there so much encouragement to any great work. The magnitude of the work is awful,—appalling. When you consider that from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and fifty millions of people stand in need of this book, is it not obvious and plain that if you were to put all the printing presses in the world at work on that single book, yet the increase of population would render it too difficult to make up such a long lee-way? Still, it is something to enter upon it. The work is

so great that it must be God's alone. The "excellency of the power" must belong to him and not to us.

The constitution of the New York Society is a noble one. In our country, there are denominations and sects, and we have, I suppose, our differences; and there are occasions when we meet as Churchmen upon our platforms, advocating Church objects; and there are other men, Non-conformists, who will meet upon their platforms, and advocate their views; and perhaps sometimes we may say hard words of one another, though really, at this moment, my conscience exonerates me; I do not remember saying a harsh word of any one who loves the Lord Jesus Christ, although he may differ from me in detail. But such things are said. I love my church. My father was a clergyman of the Church of England, and a scholar of the same University where I am proud to have got my own degree and to have received my own education. I love her forms; I love everything connected with her. But, at the same time, I thank God that I am able upon occasion to rise to a loftier plane, to look across these differences, and embrace to my heart every one who loves the same Saviour, every one whose likeness proves his adoption into the same family, the same spirit planted in his heart, whereby the Christian, without distinction of sect, cries "Abba" to his Father above. I believe that the platform of the Bible Society was the first erected in England upon which men were able, without compromise, to stand. The Churchman is true to his church, the Non-conformist holds to his principles as steadfastly as if he was in his own party or division. There is no compromise. We unite together in the blessed work of the Saviour, the only rivalry between us being who shall love that Saviour best, and who shall love man most.

Our Society has been assailed, as I have no doubt yours has been; and really, if we were engaged in a work of this kind, and it was all plain sailing, if there were no difficulties interposed, no roots of bitterness springing up to trouble us, I should begin to suspect there was something wrong in our objects, or something weak or faulty in the manner in which we were carrying them out. In the history of the world, you do not find the devil allowing the Lord's work to go on without interruption; and it is good evidence that we are in the right path, that

there is much opposition to our work. The British and Foreign Bible Society has met with great opposition. When Lord Bexley was President, he remarked, on one occasion, speaking of the difference of opinion that existed, "If we cannot reconcile all differences, let us at least unite all hearts." The great principle is the unity of all who love the Lord Jesus in sincerity. You have here your American Board of Missions. heard of it in Europe; I have heard more of it since I came here; and I cannot but admire it, and wish it God-speed from the bottom of my heart. They are enterprising and wise; they are spiritual and bold, and strong in the Lord and in the power of his might; and God strengthen and help them more and more. Lord Shaftesbury, not long ago in London, speaking of the Turkish missions, commended the Americans engaged in that work as the very perfection of missionaries. But, Sir, what would the American Board of Missions be without the Bible Society? And what would our Church Missionary Society and Society for the Propagation of the Gospel be without the Bible Society? It has need of twelve versions of the Scriptures, in carrying on its work; of those it can only obtain five from the Christian Knowledge Society; it is beholden for the others to the British and Foreign Bible Society. The Propagation Society defrayed onehalf of the expense of the publication of the Tamil version of the Scriptures, in which the British and Foreign Bible Society has been engaged; and not only so, but it gave up for two years one of its own missionaries, who was regarded as the person best qualified for the work, to revise and supervise that Tamil version of the Bible. That is exactly what should be done. should the Lord's work suffer? Why should not the man who is able to do more than any other man upon a special work be employed to do that work? In the Church Missionary Society it is the same. That Society circulates thirty versions, and I believe that twenty-eight out of that number can be had from the British and Foreign Bible Society only. No doubt your American Board of Missions are equally beholden to this Society. They cannot be required to print all the books they circulate for themselves; they will give help in the revision of books and in the issue of new editions; but they come to the parent fountain to draw those streams with which they irrigate the dry and

parched countries to which they are sent as the dispensers of blessings.

With regard to these Arabic Scriptures, it took sixteen years of labor on the part of the two men to whom I have referred to complete the book; and not simply their labors; but wherever there was a man to be found,—English, Scotch, or Irish, competent to pronounce a decision, he was consulted; and so far as human prudence, human diligence, human learning, human patience, and human prayer can be a guaranty for the perfectness of a work, the Arabic Scriptures,—and no doubt the same is true of the Spanish version,—are as perfect as it is possible, in the advanced state of criticism and literature at the present day, to make them. It reminds us of the time, in 1611, when our own authorized version was issued; and I trust that it will continue to be the authorized version in both countries to the end of time. There might be some amendments; and so there are specks on the sun; but to substitute any other version for one that has been circulated by so many millions, and has withstood the assaults of so many critics is too solemn even to contemplate.

I see that the hands of the clock are passing rapidly, and I know there are others to follow me, and that the patience of this indulgent meeting is not to be trespassed upon. I was kindly allowed to select such subjects as might present themselves to me, and my address has been desultory. It has at least this characteristic,—it comes from the depths of my heart. I conclude with the fervent prayer that God may bless you more and more, and not only make you a blessing to yourselves and your more immediate neighborhood, but that you may labor unweariedly in this great work, and not be weary in well-doing, until the very ends of the earth have been brought to know the salvation of our God.

Another hymn was then sung, after which, Rev. WILLIAM BUTLER, D. D., addressed the meeting as follows:

## Mr. President:

My purpose is to use the few moments allotted to me, to introduce a contrast between the teachings and influence of the

Bible, and the teachings and influence of those books that are the standards of the faith of the people where I have for ten years had an opportunity of forming an opinion of that contrast. And, Sir, while casting about in my mind for something that I could say on behalf of these venerable volumes which the Word of God is intended forever to supersede, I have been at a loss for a single characteristic promotive of the glory of God or the good of man, on which I could really fix my attention. This may result from the imperfection of my acquaintance with these volumes, and with their literature; but I have seen the surface of human life in the land. I have seen the society where these books predominate, and if I am to judge of their teachings by the condition of humanity, it is high time that these "refuges of lies" should be swept from the face of the earth, and the Book of God, and that alone, exalted. First of all, Sir, I hold in my hand the sacred volume of the Buddhists—containing the life and opinions of Gautama Buddha; written by the man who laid the foundations of that system in the days when the prophet Jeremiah was preaching to the people of Israel. When I think of the three hundred and fifty millions of human beings who look upon this as their scripture, as their law of light,—when I consider their condition, the utter and abject state in which they live, the Bible rises before me in all its value and all its glory, as not to be compared for a moment with this wretched production. Twenty-five hundred years have passed away since the hand of a man, now adored as a god, traced the lines upon this palm leaf, and what has been the result? Standing under the shadow of a temple of Brahma, I asked a follower of Gautama where the author of his religion was. The reply was, "He has been in his grave for nearly twenty-five centuries." I asked him the meaning of the term which I have translated "grave," and he said as near as he could give an idea of it,—it was a state of utter unconsciousness, in which this being-the god of three hundred and fifty millions of our race—is now unconscious of his own existence, and can neither smile on good deeds, nor frown on bad ones. Yet there were those devotees, in those joss-houses, kneeling down before colossal images, some forty feet high, and offering homage to him that has not an ear to hear, that knows not of his own life or experience; and these

millions, going astray in such an error as this, are offering their devotions to a god that cannot hear them.

I hold in my hand a portion of the Shaster, written probably three thousand years ago; next to the Bible, the most venerable leaves on earth. What is the influence of that Shaster? For thirty centuries, the priesthood of that religion have had an opportunity for a grand experiment in a country of almost coutinental extent, with one-fifth of the human race under their power, with splendid taste, as their architectural monuments may well attest—with boundless wealth—for India is the richest country in the world, so far as precious metals are concerned and yet, notwithstanding their power and numbers, their geographical position, their commanding position, their great commerce, their immense wealth, their splendid taste, what have the Shasters done for one hundred and eighty millions of our So far as I know anything of these volumes, no Saviour is spoken of-no effort to raise the fallen is inculcated. When I think of the condition of society there, particularly of the state of woman—a subject too vast to enter upon or illustrate here when I think of this, when remembering that the priesthood of this system have accomplished all they have attempted for India, and then contrast the teachings of this Shaster with the teachings of the blessed Word of God, I can find no words to express to you the effect of that contrast.

I have stood in the most splendid mosque, probably, on earth, where for seven months, a perpetual prayer-meeting was kept up, beseeching God, for Mohammed's sake, to destroy the "Christian dogs" that were besieging the imperial city of Delhi; and when I have thought how vain those prayers were—how God refused them, and scattered them with the winds of heaven, and the Christian army overthrew the colossal opposition and influence against which they were so unequally struggling, because the Lord God of Hosts covered their heads in the day of battle; when I have thought of the influence of this system upon society, (for I know of this society what no mortal tongue in a mixed assembly, if in any assembly, dare utter—mysteries of iniquity that it were a shame to refer to;) when I have seen the condition of woman, crushed down and degraded, with her immortality doubted, if

not denied, and that degradation put upon her grave, and this abominable book, which that blessed Arabic Bible is intended to supersede, providing for woman a substitute in the carnal heaven it portrays,—when, I say, I have thought of these things, and turned from documents like these to that pure and holy Bible, I have felt that there can be no comparison. It is perfect contrast. We might as well compare earth in its worst forms, even hell itself, with the light and glory of the New Jerusalem, as to compare this abominable production of the human mind with that ever blessed book that God has sent down from heaven to be our guide through life, and our solace and support in death.

Let me for a moment illustrate what the influences of these systems are. Probably what I have to say will be more striking than any labored argument I might deduce from the facts. I take for instance this string of beads. It is connected with the The Forty-second Highlanders, led by the brave General Havelock, when on their march one day, met one of those wandering fakirs, of which India is so full, with this string of beads, made of the kernel of the betel nut, round his neck, and he was most religiously performing his devotions as he passed them on the road. From the sinister aspect of the man, they concluded he was not as holy as he appeared to be, or wished to be considered, and a Highlander stepped out and said to him, through the interpreter of the regiment, "Give an account of yourself. Where are you going?" Said he, putting his hands together in a devout manner, "I am going so and so," referring to a Mohammedan shrine where he was going to worship. "Well," said the soldier, "I don't know but you are as innocent as you appear, but we must search you." He was unwilling to be searched, and this unwillingness strengthened their suspicions; so they proceeded to search him, and on his body documents were found directing a regiment of Sepoys that had not yet risen at a certain station, to rise and murder their officers, and not alone the officers, but the wives and children of those officers, and to destroy every Christian, and march to the aid of the emperor at Delhi.

That is the result of the system which that book inculcates. It is written there that heaven is secure to the hand that kills a

The Arabic word means any unbeliever, but in its modern signification it particularly means a Christian. Here was one of the professed saints of that book, here was one of the disciples of that system, proceeding on a mission entirely consistent with the teaching of that book, intended to involve in a common ruin and bloody death, innocent men and women in connection with the European officers of that regiment. is the influence of that teaching. I have seen it not merely in the ignorant fakir, who might be supposed to be excusable on account of the blind fanaticism that leads him forward, but in educated and influential men. I have known a deputy judge, in the city where I was stationed, who received six hundred rupees a month from the British Government as subordinate to the principal judge, Mr. Robinson, a noble Presbyterian gentleman from Scotland, in whose house myself and my family have enjoyed Christian hospitality,-I have known that judge, the day the rebellion opened, to drive on the camp-ground and be saluted by three regiments of sepoys as King. I have known that man doom his superior officer, he having been brought before him to be tried as a Christian, to be cut to pieces by the law of the Koran, for no crime except that he was a believer in the Son of God. I saw that man afterwards, when Lord Clyde laid his hand upon him, and he was awaiting his trial and con-I went to his cell and spoke to him, and urged him demnation. to seek from Heaven the mercy he could not hope from earth, "because," said I, "your hands are red with the blood of fortyseven Christian people whom you have sacrificed to your Mohammedan rage, and their blood cries to Heaven for vengeance You are in the hands of a just and powerful against you. Government, and must meet your doom. I come to urge you to repent and employ the few remaining days left you in seeking the mercy of God." But the bigotry of that man's heart was so great, (and he was an educated man, remember, over eighty years old, and for fifteen years had swayed the sceptre over a province inhabited by seven millions of men,) that he resisted every appeal. What were his words on the scaffold? him tried and condemned and carried to the place of execution. As he stood there,—and I give you his words, that you may contrast that Bible and its Author, who said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do," with the teaching of this system,—as he stood there with the rope around his neck and the cap about to be drawn over his face, he turned to the magistrate and said, "I hate you." Then, talking as the Oriental talks, using the uncertain for the certain number, with a bitter sneer he said, "I have killed a thousand Christian dogs—and I would kill a thousand more if I had the power." There was a man, a gentleman in society, educated, a monarch, eighty years of age, standing within one moment of the judgment, and these were the sentiments of his religion, and he learned them from that book.

This system is a system of cruelty, and blood, and persecution, that has never granted to man, where it had the power, any alternative but conformity or death. May the hour soon come when the balance of power in Europe will allow to sink down to its just oblivion, a system which for twelve hundred years has uttered more blasphemies against the Son of God and wrung more tears from woman's heart than any other system that ever exercised the patience of Heaven, or tormented Oh, how grateful those sentiments were to me mankind! to-day that in the language of that book there has now been placed, by these Bible Societies, that glorious truth that will teach humanity and mercy to these one hundred and sixty millions of immortal minds, and shed over them the glorious influence that will change them into adorers and worshipers of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Allow me two thoughts in conclusion. I have spoken of Buddha. I have him here. [The speaker here exhibited a small idol.] That image is worshiped by more men than bow down to the name of the Son of God, even nominally. Three hundred and fifty millions of our race,—probably one third of the human family,—acknowledge that as God, and know no other. You will find that idol in India, Ceylon, Burmah, Thibet, China, Tartary, Siam; and there the people are perishing, generation after generation, and this the only God that they know.

Talk of the amiability of the heathen! After an experience of ten years, with such opportunities as falls to the lot of few men, I have never met a virtuous heathen, never a man who

conversed with me in reference to his desire for purity, truth, and goodness. That system has brought men down to a religion utterly heartless and mechanical. What do you think it is that I hold in my hand? The highest exhibition of their devotion. You will smile when I tell you what it is. You will see the Buddhist priest sitting in his bazaar ringing his bell to attract a congregation; and when the crowd have laid down as many coppers as satisfy his cupidity, he will undertake to give them so many turns of this praying machine. Within this cylinder some six hundred prayers are written; and he tells them that as often as that cylinder is turned round, six hundred prayers have gone up to heaven in their behalf. A god insensible, a religion without devotion, so mechanical that it has brought men to praying by machinery, this is the system to which the teachings of Buddha have brought three hundred and fifty millions of our This is bad enough, but it remained for the Shaster to do something more. These leaves are read by nearly two hundred millions of our race as their Scripture and their guide to heaven: and yet, what is the highest conception of God, as to form and fact, in their worship in India? Mark you, the divinity I hold in my hand is no divinity of some isolated portion of that I have stood in a city of forty thousand persons, people. entirely ecclesiastical in its character, with thirteen colleges endowed by the munificence of Hindoos in days gone by, entirely devoted in their training to raising a priesthood for the worship of this one god. I have seen a professor of Sanscrit, in which this book is written, sitting in his college with his disciples at his feet, all intent as he read and explained from these very leaves. Yet for what is that city, for what those thirteen colleges, for what those professors? You would hardly believe me if I were to tell you, were I not able to hold up the god which it is their object to teach men to worship. This is Hanu-The great original deity, in the temple at Adjudiah, in the province of Oude, has eyes of diamonds, worth forty thousand dollars each; his body is of gold, splendid cashmere shawls inclose his person, and a thousand living monkeys occupy the temple, that are fed daily through endowments that have been provided for that purpose. This illustrates the sublimity of that religion, which, after forty centuries, brought two hundred millions of our race under the teaching of their scripture, to worship a monkey god. I leave these facts—they speak for themselves. Is it not time to send the Bible to such people? Do you not feel honored in being asked to send that pure and blessed volume of God's own truth to supersede these "refuges of lies," and to sweep away these machines and these monkeys and these abominable idolatries, from the face of the earth, until the Lord alone and his own blessed book shall be exalted in all the earth?

The Rev. WILLIAM M. BARBOUR, of South Danvers, next addressed the meeting as follows:

Friends of the Bible:—It is a relief to our hearts to think, after these narrations, that God is the Lord and reigneth even over all these abominations. He has plans concerning them; he has a providence that embraces them all; and if we had his patience and his foresight, we would see their end. But what we do not see, we must and do believe. What is this living, reigning God intending to do with the Bible in opposition to these systems? Let this be the burden of the few remarks which shall be uttered before this assembly is dismissed. What is God signifying, reading from the past, in regard to the Bible? What are a few of the providential indications concerning it and its triumph?

First, it is very evident that time is in favor of the Bible. Every other book lives within its life. There is a very humbling literary mortality, and when we think that out of every thousand volumes published, six hundred and fifty do not see the end of their first year, one hundred and fifty do not see the end of the third, and only fifty survive seven years' publicity,—when we think of this vast literary mortality, and remember that the Bible "still lives," there is hope under God that it will live. Out of fifty thousand works written in the seventeenth century, not sixty remain with any reputation, not over fifty are reprinted. The same statistics meet the case of the eighteenth century. For three thousand years men have been writing books. Those who wrote books before Christ, can be counted

up in sixty seconds; and yet, look at that word of God, with its hundred millions of duplicates published by societies alone, to say nothing of the editions published for private reading and through private enterprise, fresher than ever! The last man who read it with a true knowledge of it, says it is the best book he has ever read. It is like a living spring of water—the more you draw from it, the better and purer it is. The oldest, and likely to be the oldest of all, hath not the living, reigning God an intention, in so far as time reveals anything, in regard to the immortality of that great work? Look at it as a phenomenon. Look at it, likening it to the plough, the anvil, and the loom, something that lives in the world's history. There it lives; and has not the Son of God said, "It cannot be broken"? Time, then, will not break it.

Opposition will do nothing against this book, for almost every form of opposition has been already tried, and there must be a new invention. Some are ready to ask how it is that God allows his word to be so opposed. I suppose he wishes all nations and all kinds of men to try their hand against Opposition cannot break it. Christ stands between us and The last attempt—as allusion has been made to Colenso —has been made by a Zulu. A Zulu never tried to oppose the word of God before. He inserted the end of the wedge, and then an English Bishop drove it home, and tried to split the "It cannot be broken." Pentateuch off, but it could not be done. It is strange when men are disconcerted by the Numbers of Moses, by the mistakes of the Kings and Chronicles, or the discrepancies in Numbers, that they do not remember that those discrepancies confronted Christ. He was satisfied with them. Moses counted correctly for him. He found no fault, though Colenso does. Why, Satan knew better. In the temptation "It is written," said Christ, and Satan held his peace. never said, "Moses' day is past; he is incorrect; he is unhistorical." He came again; and, "It is written," said Christ. The devil withdrew. He came again, "It is written," said Christ, and the devil gave up the contest.

It is very strange to notice the sources of opposition to the Holy Word. Be assured, friends of the Bible, a man does not start against it, until it has started against him, either in

opinion or in conduct. The same men who stand up and say, "Before God, our consciences will not allow us to receive the Bible," get the very idea of conscience as a responsible thing to a moral governor out of that Bible. They gain the very strength to oppose from the word they condemn. Can it be, think you, that the sun in heaven will ever light a lamp on earth to extinguish himself? No! though the earth were a-blaze, it could not be seen where the sun shines. But the strangest mode of opposition seems to be in the attempt to Men say, "There are a great many good things in the Bible, but there are a great many things we don't like, and those we wish to eliminate." Light is composed of several rays, and some of them are dark. But the man who will take out the dark particles, will have no light, and the man who will take out the bright particles, will have no light. The man who will take something out of the Bible that he does not like, spoils the whole. Christ said, "It cannot be broken." But men say, "We will break it, and take away those things that are disagreeable to our feelings."

Again, it is very evident, friends, that the course of events is not likely to run against the Bible. The course of God's providence has in a singular manner been always running with it. I shall quote to you a few instances of what Southey calls the "timing of Providence" in order to show it. It is almost romantic to study history with this view, and see how the movements of God's providence have been in favor of this book. Take, for instance, the emancipation of thought at the Reformation. Luther, as you know, was born thirty years after Guttenburg and Faust began to print, and about twelve years before America was discovered and a way to India known by the sea. Now, suppose the Reformation had come before the printing press,—what would have been the result? What would Luther's voice have been?

"An infant crying in the night,
And with no language but a cry."

But God had the press ready, and ready for the Bible; and to give the press scope, by the invention of paper, he took up what was useless in the earth, and purified it into angels with wings, to scatter his word wherever the winds of heaven should blow. Or suppose that the Reformation had been delayed until now, after steam has done so much, and the world is belted with iron and girt with wire, and civilization has advanced. Suppose that to have been a godless civilization. The powers that were, would have had it under their control. The emancipated mind of the people, would have been under this godless civilization. But see how this has come. The Bible came when the press was ready to print it. The Bible came as the precursor, of all that has quickened and civilized our race. Mark the timing of that. Was not a Divine Mind behind these things, in suiting them the one to the other?

Take another instance. A generation or two ago the advance of verbal criticism caused great rejoicing among the enemies of the Bible. Immediately after, the wits of men were applied to words, and learning was doing its work, trying to assail the word of God. What occurred, under Divine Providence? Why, from the centre of the earth God dug up words. From Nineveh, from the ruins of the East, there have come up specimens of verbal criticism; and the more closely they are read, what do they say? Anything against the word of God? Do they not show confirmations of it in words that the ablest of the infidel race have not enough either of courage or of scholarship to try to refute? The trouble was with words, and God has given words from unseen sources to keep men and their wits in play until these societies and the Christian Church do their work in sending the word of God purely abroad.

One thing I wish to call your attention to. Mark the timing of the opening of the nations with the advance in linguistic study. Through war and through commerce, and through this influence and the other, the various nations of the earth were thrown open to the Gospel; but when, I ask? When men became enthusiastic in the mastery of tongues, and not until then. Every door now is left ajar for Christ to come in; and the cause of Christ and the blessed word is not asleep when our learned men are over their lexicons, and preparing the way for the word to come in where God has so signally opened the door. Now mark the timing of that, and see if there is not a playing into the hands of the Bible, so to speak, by the arrangement

of the Divine plan. Christ was either deep in the secrets of Divine Providence, or it has worked singularly with him. Providence endorses that remarkable saying, "The Scripture cannot be broken."

One more remark in regard to the rendering of the word into the native tongues, which comes with a peculiar force from this fact, that wherever the Bible has gone and taken possession of the nations, it has become a national book, a household book, a beloved book. Every one knows that the Bible translated by Luther is a perfect masterpiece of the German language and German spirit. There is no book in the Teutonic tongue to equal it. And in regard to our own English Bible,—was ever book like that? Let me read to you from one who left the beauty he so finely describes for the Douay version. Hear Professor Newman:—

"Who will not say that the uncommon beauty and marvellous English of the Protestant Bible is one of the strongholds of Protestantism? It lives on the ear like music that cannot be forgotten, like the church bells which the convert hardly knows how he can forego. Its felicities seem to be things rather than words. The memory of the dead passes into it. The potent traditions of childhood are stereotyped in its verses. The power of all the griefs and trials of man are hidden beneath its words. the representative of his best moments, and all that there has been about him of soft, and gentle, and pure, and good, speaks to him forever out of his English Bible. It is his sacred thing, which doubt has never dimmed, nor controversy soiled. In the length and breadth of the land, there is not a Protestant with one spark of religiousness about him whose spiritual biography is not in his Saxon Bible."

And this sentiment in regard to the Bible, as a national household book, spreads wherever the Bible spreads. Recently, in a missionary meeting in a foreign land, where the natives had just had a copy of the Scriptures given them in their own tongue, one of the venerable disciples stood up and said: "Brethren, this is my resolution in regard to this Word—I vow before you that the dust shall never lie on this book. The moths shall never eat it; the mildew shall never rot it. The word of my God, my light, my joy!" And no wonder, for, as one of old

hath beautifully yet quaintly said, "It is sweet to have our Heavenly Father's will in our earthly mother's tongue." This, as you see, being an arrangement of God, these things taking place in every, land, there is, we can safely affirm, a fore-ordination of the fact that the Bible shall become a household and endeared book; that wherever it shall spread, it shall be the lasting one, it shall be the conqueror of all.

Let me add one thing more. It is simply a word of congratulation concerning the cause which calls us together. The favor of God has followed, for these fifty years, the efforts to print and spread this blessed Word. Is not his will to be read in the past of our Societies, and are we not, this afternoon, gathering around a fore-ordained success? For time must change its influence, opposition must take some unheard-of form, the course of Divine Providence must run the other way, before Christ can be proved untrue, before the Scripture can be broken.

The exercises closed with a Doxology, and the Benediction by Bishop EASTBURN.

## CONSTITUTION.

# CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

#### THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

#### ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

- SEC. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Drown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.
- SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.

- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.—Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

#### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year Eighteen Hundred and Sixty-five. An Act in addition to an Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- SEC. 1. The Corporation heretofore established by the name of THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS, shall hereafter be known by the name of the Massachusetts Bible Society, and by that name shall have, hold and enjoy all its rights and privileges and be subject to all its liabilities and obligations to the same extent as if its name had not been changed.
- SEC. 2. The said Society may publish, procure, purchase, circulate and distribute Bibles and Testaments in any other than the English language, in the same manner and to the same extent as they are now authorized by law to distribute Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, any thing in the Act incorporating the said Society to the contrary notwithstanding.—Approved by the Governor, February 27, 1865.

## BY - LAWS.

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At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

#### ARTICLE I.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

#### ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

#### ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

#### ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

#### ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, fourteen Vice Presidents, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice Presidents, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

#### ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice Presidents and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

#### ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

#### ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

#### ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

#### ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository.

#### ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

#### ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

## PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository, annually, the value of one dollar in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

## MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

#### BY THE PAYMENT OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

Abbe, Rev. Frederick R., Abington. Abbe, Mrs. Frederick R. Abbott, Rev. Jacob J., Whitinsville. Aborn, John G., South Reading. Adams, Elizabeth W., Derry, N. H. Adams, John Clark, Hopkinton. *Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. Adams, Nehemiah, D. D., Beston. Adams, Stephen, West Medway. Adkine, Miss Mary J., South Deerfield. *Albree, John, Beston. Albro, John A., D. D., Cambridge. Albro, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Albro, Miss Annie E. Alden, Almira S. C., Fozbero'. Alden, Russell, Campello. Alden, Miss Sarah B., Randelph. Alden, Miss Susan, Aldrich, Mrs. Mary B., Westbore'. Allen, Rov. Nathaniel G., Somerville. Allen, Richard H., Braintres. Ames, James S., Haverkill. Andrews, Artemas F., Fitchburg. Andrews, C. L., Boston. Andrews, Stephen, Gloucester. Andrews, W. T., Besten. Andrews, Thomas E., Holliston. *Appleton, Samuel, Beston. *Appleton, William, " Archibald, Edward, Methaen. Armes, Miss Clara A., Campello. Atwood, Mrs. Abby, Chalkam. Atwood, Mrs. Elizabeth M., Atwood, John W., North Bridgewater. Austin, Frank Woods, New Braintres. Babcock, Mrs. Nancy, Boston. Babcock, Rev. William R., Jamaica Plain. Babson, Miss Maria R., Gloucester. Bacon, Jacob, Escon, Rev. James M., Essez. Bacon, Joseph N., Newton. Backus, Rev. Joseph W., Lowell. Baker, Mrs. Eleanor J. W., Dorchester. Baker, Francis, South Danvers. Baldwin, Miss Josephine L., Lynn. Ball, Miss Elizabeth, Concord.

Barber, Mrs. Eliza A., South Denvers. Barber, Martin, Sherbern. Barber, Sally C., Barber, Rev. William M., South Denvers. *Bardwell; Lieut. Charles S., Whately. Barker, Hiram, Brighton. Barnard, William F., Marlbore. *Barnes, William, Barnes, Zilpah, Henniker, N. H. Barrett, Nathan H., Concord. Barrett, Miss Rebecca M. Bartlett, Mrs. Eleanor C., Plymouth. Bartlett, Thomas, Boston. Bassett, Henry, Newton. Batchelder, John M., Holliston. Batchelor, Stephen F., Whitinsville. *Bayley, Robert, Newburyport. Beal, Alexander, Besten. Beal, Mrs. Louisa, Cohasset. Beane, Rev. Samuel, Norten. Bearse, Miss Olive H., Centreville. Beebe, James M., Boston. Beebe, Mrs. Jemes M. *Beebe, Charles E. " Beebe, Frances L. Beebe, Edward P. 66 Reebe, Emily B. Beebe, Mary L. Beecher, Rev. William H., No. Brookfold. Belden, Mrs. Marianne P., Whately. Belknap, Miss Martha M., Framingham. Benson, Frederick A., Newton. Blanchard, Miss Frances C., Greten. Bliss, Rev. Charles R., South Reading. Bliss, Mrs. Charles R. Blodgett, Benjamin C., Newton Blodgett, Simeon, South Deerfield. Blood, Cyrus W., Winchester. Blood, Lyman, Groton. Bodwell, Rev. Joseph C., Woburn. Bodwell, Mrs. Catharine, Boston. *Bond, George, " Bowers, Luke K. Bowers, Mrs. Cara H. Brackett, James, Quincy.

Brackett, Lemuel, "

*Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgetown. Brant, Aaron, South Reading. Breed, Rev. William J., Raynkam. Brower, Cyrus, Derchester. Brewer, Mrs. C. F., Besten. Brewer, John R. Brickett, Franklin, Haverhill. Briggs, Miss Catharine Clark, Wenkam. Briggs, Rev. William T., Princeton. Brigge, Mrs. Abby L., *Bromfield, Elizabeth, Besten. *Brooks, Peter C. Brooks, Peter C. Brown, Mrs Harriet L., Boston. Brown, Joseph, Groton. Brown, Mrs. Mary O., Haverhill. Bucklin, Simon S., Brooklins. Bulkley, Mrs. C. F., Plattsburgh, N. Y. Burge, Lorenzo, Boston. Burr, Charles C., Auburndale. Burrage, J. C., Boston. Burrill, Henry, Jr., East Abington. Bush, Henry J., Westfield. Bushby, Sophia W., South Danvers. Butler, Rev. Daniel, Boston. Butler, Mrs. Jane D. Cady, Rev. Daniel R., West Cambridge. Cady, Mrs. Harriet S. Caldwell, Rev. W E., Hyannis Capen, Mrs. Charles, Framingham. Capron, William C., Uzbridge. Carleton, George H., Haverkill. Carpenter, Catharine E., Fozbore'. Carpenter, Daniel, Carpenter, Edson, Carr, John C., West Newbury. Carrier, Rov. Augustus H., Auburndale. Carter, Edward, Andover. Cary, George C., N. Bridgewater. Cary, Mrs. Mary D., Fozborp'. Chandler, Miss Frances E., Andover. Chandler, H. H., Charlestown. Chapin, Caleb T., Northboro'. Chapin, Josiah L., Lawrence. Chapman, George H., Winchester. Chase, Ann Maria, Haverhill. Chase, Charles W., Chase, George S. Chase, Hezekiah, Lynn. Chase, Robert, Haverhill. Cheever Ira, Cheisea. Child, Miss Anna G., Springfeld. Child, Miss Lucy, Thetford, Pt. Childs, Carlos, Henniker, N. H. Childs, Horace, Choate, David, M. D., Salem. *Clap, James, Dorchester.

Clap, Mrs. Rebecca, Boston.

Clapp, James B., Boston. Clapp, John C. Clapp, Samuel, Fozborough. Clark, Rev. Edward L., No. Bridgemeter. Clark, Elbridge, East Medway. Clark, George, Concord. Clark, James G., Andever. Clark, John L., Clark, Jonathan, Winchester. Clark, Rev. Joseph B., Yarmouth. Clark, Mrs. Miranda D., Boston. Clark, Miss Nelly, Sherbern. Clark, Oliver R., Winchester. Clark, Rev. P. K., South Deerfield. Clark, Rowse R., Whitinsvills. Clark, Rufus W., D. D., Albery, N. Y. Clarke, Mrs. Adeliza H., Medway. Clarke, Rev. Dorus, Welthem. Clarke, Francis, Haverhill. Clarke, George E., Falmoutk. Clary, Mrs. S. S., Wareham. Cleaveland, Waldo, South Deerfield. Clifford, Wyatt B., Chatham. Cobb, Andrew B., Newton Corner. Cobb, Jacob, Abington. Cobb, Rev. L. H., Andover. *Cobb, Richard, Boston. *Codman, Charles R. Codman, Mrs. Catharine, " Coggin, Rev. William S., Bezford. Colby, Albert, Boston. Colby, Barak, Henniker, N. H. Cole, Asa, West Medway. Cole, Miss Ella A., Medway. Cole, John A., Conant, Charles E., Winchester. Conn, Horace, Woburn. Cook, Asa, Newton. Coolidge, Rev. Amos H., Leicester. Coolidge, Joseph, Boston. Coolidge, Lowell, Sherbern. Coolidge, Mrs. Catharine, " Copp, Joseph A., D. D., Chelses. Copp, Mrs. Fedora F., Cordley, Mrs. Lydia G., Lawrence. Cousens, Boulah F., Newton Contro. Cowdry, Robert, Winches Crafts, Mrs. Sarab P., Newton. Crockett, Mrs. Eliza, Haverhil'. Crosby, Mrs. Eleanor L., Centreville. Crosby, James, Boston. Crosby, Mrs. Rebecca, " Cruikshanks, George, St. Johnsbury, FL. Cummings, Charles, Harvard. Currier, Rev. Albert H., Lynn. Curtie, Abner, East Abington. Cushing, Joseph L., New Braintres. Cushman, George H., North Bridgemeter. Cushman, Mrs. Rachel B., No. Bridgewater. Cutter, Stephen, Winskester. Cutter, Stephen H. Dakin, Thomas L., Sudbury. Damon, Albert P., Resding. Damon, Mrs. Edward C., Concord. Dana, Samuel, Besten. Dana, Charles B., Brecklins. Dane, John H. Daniell, Mrs. Eliza B., E. Medway. Daniell, Otis, Boston. Daniels, Mrs. Mariam W., East Medway. Davis, Alfred N., N. Wilmington. Davis, Alvah M., Haverkill. Davis, James, Boston. Davis, John, Methuen. Davis, John, Somerville. Davis, Lydia K., Dunstable. Davis, Miss Mary H., Consord. Davis, Rev. Perley B., Sharon. Davis, Thaddeus Uriah, Dunstable. Davison, George W., Whitineville. Day, Robert L., Newton. Dean, Miss Abbie T., Fozbore'. Denham, Rev. George, Chelses. Denham, Mrs. Clara D. " Dickerman, Rev. Lysander, Weywouth. Dickson, Oliver, Somervills. Dickson, Mrs. Sarah E., Somerville. Dix, Mrs. Elijah, Boston. Dix, Samuel F., Newton. Dodd, Rev. Stephen G., East Randelph. Dodge, Rev. John, Hervard. Dodge, Mrs. Ann S. Dedge, Mrs. J. M. C., Andever. Doggett, Rev. Thon, Niegera Fells, N. Y. Doggett, Mrs. Frances L. Doggett, William, *Dorr, John, Besten. Dorr, Samuel, " *Dow, Josiah, *Dowse, Edward, Dedhem. *Dowse, Elizabeth R. L., Sherbern. Dudley, P. W., Whitinsville. Dudley, Mrs. Sarah A. Dunham, Charles H., Winskester. Dunham, Mrs. Mary L Dunlap, Sumner, South Deerfield. Dunton, Hiram P., Spencer. Dunn, Edward H., Boston. Durgin, James, West Newbury. Dutch, Elizabeth, Boston. Dyer, Rev. E. Porter, Somerville. Eager, William, Boston. Eames, Mrs. Nagoy, Sherbern. Eames, Warren, Wilmington. Eastburn, Rt. Rev. Manton, D. D., Beston. Eaton, Mys. App E., South Reading.

Eaton, Shon, Framingham. Eaton, Miss Martha W., Finshburg. Eaton, William, Besten. Eaton, William J., Westbere'. Eddy, Joshua, East Middlebere'. Edwards, Frederick B., N. Chelmaford. Edwards, Maria F. " Edwards, Nathan B. Edwards, Nathan F. 66 Edwards, Sibbyl R. " Edwards, Victor E. Eldred, Lorenzo, Felmouth. *Eliot, Samuel, Besten. *Eliot, Samuel A. " Ells, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Oberlin, Q. *Elwali, Robert, *Boston*. Emerson, Miss Ellen T., Concord. Emerson, Jacob, Jr., Methuen. Emerson, Mrs. Jacob, Emerson, R. V. C., Newton. Emery, Mrs. Harriet, North Weymouth. Emery, Mrs. Mary, Chatham. Emery, Mrs. Sarah M., Newburypert. *Everett, Edward, Besten. Fairbanks, Stephen, " *Farnsworth, Mrs. Abel, Groton. Farr, Alba A., Methuen. Farwell, Stephen T., Cambridge. Fay, Cyrus, Westboro'. Fay, Josiah C., Hopkinton. Fayerweather, Mrs. S. A., Westbere'. Fayerweather, Miss S. W., Fearing, Albert, Boston. Fearing, Mrs. Albert, " Fisher, Miss Eliza, Medicay. Fisher, Milton M., Medway Fillage. Fiske, George B. Holliston. Fiske, Mary Fidelia, Newburyport. Fitch, John A., Hopkinton. Fitz, Daniel, D. D., Ipowich. Fitz, Mrs. Hannah B. D. Fitz, Daniel, Jr. Fitz, Daniel F. Flanders, Joseph, Haverkill. Fletcher, Ephraim S., Whitineville. Fletcher, Mrs. L. C. Fletcher, Mrs. Hannah C. Fletcher, Isaac W., Store. Fletcher, Nancy B. Fletcher, Rev. James, Dangers. Fletcher, Mrs. Lydia M. Fletcher, Stillman, Winohester. Fletcher, William, Flinn, Mrs. Paulona, Flint, Thomas, Besten. Floyd, Miss Mary J., South Densers. Ford, Rev. George, Talland. Ford, Thomas A., Beston.

Ford, Thomas A., North Bridgewater. Ford, Mrs. Eliza C. Foedick, Charles, Groten. Foedick, Frederick, Foedick, Rose, *Foedick, Samuel W. " Foedick, Miss Mary, " Foster, Rev. Aaron, E. Charlement. Foster, Miss Eliza C., Rowley. Foster, Mrs. Mary, Palmer. *Francie, Ebenezer, Beston. French, Mrs. Harriet S., Taunton. Frothingham, A. T., Cambridge. Furber, Rev. Daniel L., Newton. Purber, Mrs. Maria B. Gage, Gawin R., Woburn. Gale, Rev. Wakefield, Rockport. *Gale, Mrs. Wakefield, Gale, Justin Edwards, Gallot, Nathan, Groton. Galloup, David R., South Danvers. Garrette, Rev. Edmund Y., Millbury. Garrette, Mrs. Franzenia W. Garrette, Flora Gertrude, " Garrette, Mary Spring, Gilson, Mrs. Luther, Groton. Gibbs, George L., Whitinsville. *Gibbs, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Gilbert, Benjamin R. " Giles, Mrs. Elizabeth W., Rockport. Giles, Miss Mary Olive, Gloucester. Gilman, Miss Rebecca I., Bradford. Goodell, H. Augustus, Whilinsville. Gordon, Solomon J., Boston. Gordon, Mrs. Rebecca, " Gordon, Jeannie, Gott, J. R., Rockport. Gourgas, Miss Margaret U., Concord. *Grant, Moses, Beston. *Gray, Francis C. " *Gray, Henry, " Gray, Horace, Gray, John C. Greeley, Rev. Edward H., Methuen. Greeley, Mrs. Edward H. Green, Rev. J. S. C., Newton. Greenwood, Mrs. Sally K., *Grew, John, Boston. Griggs, Dr. Samuel, Westbore'. Griggs, Mrs. S. M. Grover, Mrs. Caroline, Fozbere'. Hadley, Samuel D., Somerville. Hale, E. J. M., Haverkill. Hale, Mrs. E. J. M. " Ham, Mrs. Catharine K., Winchester. Hall, Mrs. Joseph F., Groton. *Hammatt, Mrs. Mary, Boston. Hammond, Rev. W. B., Merrisville, N. Y.

Hammond, Mrs.Louise M., Morrisville, N.Y. Harding, Mrs. Temperance, Chathem. Hardwick, Thomas, Quincy. Hartwell, Lottie E., Greton. Hardy, Truman, Manchester. Hastings, Alice, Newtonville. Hastings, Hollis, Franingham. *Hatch, Benjamin, East Falmouth. Hawes, Cynthia, Wrentham. Hawes, Jolia, Hayward, Elias, Braintres. Hayward, Paul, Ackby. Hazel, Mrs. Sarah L., Gloucester. Headley, Rev. P. C., Weterville, Me. Healy, Rev. Joseph W., Walpele. *Heard, John, Ipewick. Henshaw, Francis, Boston. Henshaw, Mrs. Sarah W., Herrick, Rev. William D., Gardner. Hersey, Jacob. Fozbere'. Hewins, Mrs. Annette P. " Hewins, Levi R. Hewins, Miss Louisa E., " *Higginson, Stephen, Jr., Besten. Hildreth, Mrs. Mary R., Groton. Hill, Rev. George E., Sezonville. *Hill, Henry, Boston. Hill, Jotham, Woburn. Hitchcock, George M., Brimfield. Hobson, Miss Priscilla, Rowley. Holbrook, Elisha, East Randelph. Holland, Miss Sarah E., Besten. Holm, Jacob P., Manchester. *Holmes, Abiel, D. D., Cambridge. Holmes, Miss Elizabeth A., Belviders, IL. Holmes, Mrs. Fanny D., South Plymouth. Holton, Thomas, Winchester. Homer, Charles W., Cambridge. Hooker, George B., Skerbern. Hooper, Robert, Boston. Hoppin, Rev. James M., New Haven, Ct. Hoemer, Miss Eliza, Concord. Hovey, George O., Besten. How, Frederick, Danvers. *How, James, Boston. Howard, Rev. Martin S., Groveland. Howard, Mrs. Matilda P., N. Brid *Howe, John, Howes, Collins, Chatham. Howard, Cary, North Bridgewater. Howard, David, Hoyt, Mrs. Maria, Framingham. Hubbard, Mrs. Charles A., Concord. Hulbert, Charles, Boston. Humphrey, Daniel, North Weymouth. Huntington, Matilda C., South Denvers. Hurd, Francis P., M. D., South Reading. Hutchins, Caroline M., Westford.

Westford. Hutchins, Maria J., Hutchins, William E. *Hyslop, David, Besten. Jackman, Mrs. Susan M., Medway. Jackson, James, Besten. Jackson, Patrick T. " Jeffries, Miss Catharine Amory, Besten. Jephson, Miss C. R., Breeklins. Johnson, Mrs. Emma E., Bradford. Johnson, Francis, Winchester. Johnson, Peter R., Hellisten. Johnson, Miss Rebecca, North Anderer. Johnson, Mrs. S. W., Farmington, N. H. Jones, Augustus T., North Bridgewater. Jones, Heary E., Holliston. Joy, Mrs. Abigail, Boston. Keep, N. C. Keith, Adelbert F., Campelle. Keith, Albert, Keith, Arza B. *Koith, Charles, North Bridgewater. Keith, Ziba C., Campello. Kendall, Mrs. Abel M., Besten. Kendall, William, Whitinsville. Kendrick, John, Haverhill. Kendrick, Miss Lydia F., Chatham. Kerr, Robert W., Fozbore'. Kerr, Jane K. Kettelle, Jacob Q., Beston. Kimball, Benjamin, 2d, Haverkill. Kimball, Rev. Caleb, Medway. Kimbell, Charles, Ipswick. Kimball, Daniel W., Winchester. Kimball, David, Bradford. Kimball, Mrs. Harriet W., Lewell. Kimball, John R., Woburn. Kimball, Mrs. Sylvia, Westboro'. Kingman, Miss Eliza, Boston. *Kingman, Miss Sarah, " Kingsbury, Nathaniel, Kittredge, Rev. A. E., New York city. *Knowles, Rev. James D., Boston. Knox, Mrs. S., Rock Island, Ill. Lambert, Miss Elizabeth G., Rowley. Lambert, Rev. Thomas R., Charlestown. Lamson, Edwin, Besten. Lamson, Mrs. Edwin, " Lamson, Helen, Lane, Anthony, Lancaster. Lane, Rev. John W., Whately. Lane, Richmond J., East Abington. Langworthy, Rev. Isaac P., Chelses. Larkin, Lydia E., Chester, N. H. Lasell, Josiah, Whitinsville. Laurle, Inglis, Owatonna, Minnesota. *Lawrence, Amos, Beston. Lawrence, Rev. Amos E., Laneaster. Lawrence, Asa, Greton.

*Lawrence, Mrs. M. A., Greton. Lawrence, Curtis, Lawrence, Mrs. Curtis, Lawrence, Miss Susan P., " Lawrence, Mrs. Nancy T., Wilton, Me. Leach, Simeon, East Stoughton. Leavitt, Mrs. Elizabeth G., Boston. Lee, Rev. Samuel H., North Bridgemeter. Leeds, Benjamin, Brooklins. Leeds, Benjamin, Jr. Loeds, Mrs. Anne B. Leeds, Miss Anne G. Lees, Mrs. Samuel, Concord. Lefavour, Issachar, Beverly. Leland, Calvin, Jr., Natick. Leonard, Eliza, Fozbero'. Leonard, James M., Bridgewater. Lewis, Reuben, Greton. Lincoln, Rev. Calvin, Hingham. Lincoln, F. W., Jr., Boston. Lincoln, Noah, Little, Rev. Elbridge G., No. Middlebere'. Little, Mrs. Lucia S., N. Middlebere'. Little, Sarah Isabel, Little, Waldo F., Newton Centra Little, William A. Littlefield, Samuel, Somerville. Livermose, George, Cambridge. *Locke, Ephraim, Boston. Loomie, Rev. Blihu, Littleton. Lord, Rev. Charles E., Besten. Lord, Miss Anna M., Ipswick. Lord, John A., South Danvers. Lord, Louisa C., Manchester. Loring, Miss Hannah W., Newton Centre. *Lowell, Charles, D. D., Besten. Lumb, William, Lunt, Charles F., Winchester. Lyman, Rev. George, Sutten. Lyon, Miss Chloe R., Campelle. Malthy, Rev. Erastus, Taunton. Mann, Miss Helen L., Greenfield. Manning, Otia, Littleton. Manning, Edward W., Woburn. Manning, Walter H., Littleton. Marble, Mrs. Mary E., Grafton. Marrett, Lorenzo, East Cambridge Marsh, Elizabeth C., Haverkill. Marsh, E. J., Leomineter. Marsh, Miss Julia M., Haverhill. Maynard, Rev. Joshua L., Williston. Pl. *Marston, William, Beston. *McKean, William, McKeen, Philens, Andover. McKeen, Mies Phebe, " *McLean, Mrs. Ann, Boston. McLean, Rev. John K., Framingham.

Means, Rev. John O., Restury.

Means, Mrs. John O., Rozbury. Means, William G., Andover. Merriam, Abner H., Templeton. Merrill, John K., Methuen. Messenger, Miss Eliza, Fitchburg. Mills, Rev. Charles L., Wrentham. Mills, Mrs. Robocca B. Minot, William, Boston. Minot, William, Jr. Mixter, Mrs. Fanny L., " Mixter, Mrs. Mary R., Hardwick. Mixter, Mrs. S. E., Rock Island, Ill. Mooar, Rev. George, Oakland, Cal. Moore, Rufus, Moors, Mrs. Rufus, Mordough, Rev. John H., Portland, Ms. Morley, Rev. Sardis B., Williamstown. Morrison, Daniel T., Methuen. Morrison, Miss Nancy T., Rowley. Morse, Miss Abby P., Emperia, Kansas. Morse, Charles N., Fezboro'. Morse, Miss Emily A., Bradford. Morse, Henry, Natick. Morse, Rufus W., Methuen. Moseley, Edward S., Newburyport. Mosman, Walter B., Chicopes. Munger, Rev. Theodore T., Haverhill. Munger, Mrs .T. T., Munroe, Miss Mary, Concord. Murray, Rev. James O., New York City. Murray, Mrs. Julia R. Nason, Rev. Elias, Ezeter, N. H. Nelson, Jonathan H., Shrewebury. *Newell, Montgomery, Boston. Newhall, Lucy Ann, Stow. Newman, Miss Sarah A., Ipswick. Nichols, Alfred A., West Amesbury. Nichols, James R., Haverkill. Nichols, Moses, Nightingale, Rev. Crawford, Greton. *Norcross, Josiah, South Reading. Norcross, Mrs. Josiah, " Nourse, Daniel, West Medway. Nourse, Susan M., Bolton. Noyes, Alva, North Bridgewater. Noves, Jacob, Abington. Noves, Luke B., South Abington Noyes, Rufus S., N. Bridgewater. Odlin, Benjamin, Ezeter, N. H. Odlin, Mrs. E. T. Ordway, Aaron L., Now York oity. Ordway, Miss Charlotte, Bradford. Osborne, George F., South Danvers. Osgood, H. B., Whitinsville. Puckard, Rev. D. Temple, Somerville. Packard, Edward C., North Bridgemeter. Packard, B. Edwards, Springfield. Packard, S. Franklin, Compello.

Packard, Zibeon, Abington. Page, Abigail L., Atkinson, N. H. Paige, George R., New Sciem. Paine, Mrs. Sarah M., Holdon. *Paine, Miss Sarah C. Palmer, Rev. Charles Ray, Salom. *Palmer, Rev. Stephen, Needham. Palmer, Squire, South Deerfield. Park, John C., Boston. Parker, Andrew, Gloucester. *Parker, John, Boston. Parker, Mrs. Sarah, *Parkman, Francia, D. D. " *Parkman, Samuel, Parkman, Mrs. Sarah, Parmenter, Mrs. E. J. G., Peterchem. *Parsons, Gorham, Besten. *Parsons, William, Partridge, Joseph, Holliston. Patrick, Rev. Henry J., West Newton. Putrick, Mrs. Martha L. Pattee, Willard, Fozbore'. Patten, Mrs. John F., Derckester. Patterson, David H., Methuen. Paul, Frederick A., Lakeville. Paul, Henry, Newton. Paul, Mrs. Henry, " *Paul, Luther, Paul Luther, Jr. Paul, Miss Harriet, " Paul, Miss Mary, Payson, Miss Susan, Fezbere'. Payson, William P., Pease, George W., Salem. Pearson, Miss Hannah J., Lowell. Peckham, Hubbard, Peterskem. Peirce, Rev. Bradford K., Herlem, N. Y. Perkins, E. E., North Middlebore'. Perkins, Jairus H., North Middlebore. Perkins, James, South Denvers, *Perkins, James, Beston. *Perkins, James, Jr. *Perkins, Thomas H. " Perley, Mrs. Abigail T., Salom. Perley, Jacob, Perry, Miss Catharine H., Sherbern. *Peters, Edward D., Boston. Pettee, Miss Eliza J., Fozbere'. Pettee, Samuel Gardner, Stoughton. Phillips, Alonso P., South Danvers. *Phillips, Jonathan, Besten. Phillips, Mrs. Sally, *Phillips, William, Pickard, Rev. Daniel W., Greedend. Pickering, Henry W., Besson. Pierce, Rev. Charles H., Millbury. Pierpost, Rev. John, Medford. Pike, Rev. John, Receley.

Plumb, Rev. Albert H., Chelsen. Plumb, Joseph Dart, Plumer, Mrs. Martha H., Rowley. Plummer, Israel, Whitinsville. Pollard, Joseph G., Woburn. Pond, Almira W., South Malden. Pond, John P., Beston. Pond, Mrs. Nancy, Medway. Pond, William E., Wrentham. Pool, Solomon, Gloucester. Poor, Joseph, South Danvers. Poor, Nathan H. Porter, Samuel S., Winchester. Pratt, Cornelius, North Weymouth. Pratt, Galen, North Bridgewater. Pratt, Galen E. Pratt, Norton, Braintres. Pratt, Phobe, Sherborn. Pratt, Zebulon, North Middleboro'. *Prescott, William, Boston. *Prince, Rev. J. M., Georgetown. Prince, Mrs. Sarah B., Bridgewater. Pritchard, William, Newburyport. Proctor, Henry H., South Danvers. Proctor, Mrs. Lucy A., Gloucester. Proctor, Thorndike, South Danvers. Quincy, Thomas D., Dorchester. Quincy, Mrs. J. C. Rankin, Mrs Mary, Charlestown. Raymond, Helen S., Boston. Read, Miss Martha, East Abington. Reed, Miss Caroline G., Haverkill. Reed, Horace, South Abington. Rice, Mrs. Agnes L., Boston. Rice, Edward, Wayland. Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth C., Lawrence. Rice, Mrs. Henry A. Rice, Miss M. Augusta, Westboro'. Rich, Rev. Alonzo B., Beverly. Rich, Rev. A. Judson, Dorchester. Rich, Mrs. Harriet L., Richards, Mrs. A. M., Litchfield, Ct. Richards, James F., Campello. Richardson, Benjamin P., Boston. Richardson, Luther, Winckester. Richardson, Miss Sarah E., Concord. Richardson, Sumner, Winchester. *Ritchie, Andrew, Jr., Boston. Robbins, Andrew, Groton. Robbins, Chandler, D. D., Beston. *Robbins, Edward H. Roberts, Rev. Jacob, East Medicay. Roberts, Mrs. Mary A., Robinson, Charles W., Auburndale. Robinson, Mrs. Clara A., Winckester. Robinson, H. W., North Bridgewater. Robinson, Rev. Reuben T., Winchester. Rockwood, John, Graten.

Rockwood, Miss Polly S., Askland. *Rogers, George, Boston. Rogers, George L., Newburyport. Rogers, Shubael G., Boston. *Rogers, Rev. William M., Russell, Sarah J., Framingham. Ryder, Marietta, Chatham. Sanford, Mrs. Adeline D., Medway Village. Safford, Rev. George B., Burlington, Vt. *Salisbury, Samuel, Boston. Sargeant, James C., Oakkam. Bargent, Edmund, West Amesbury. Sargent, Lucius M., Boston. Sargent, Samuel G., Methuen. Sawtell, Mrs. Ephraim, Groton. Sawyer, George, Campello. Sawyer, Seth C., E. Randolph. *Scudder, Charles, Boston. Scudder, Mrs. Sarah L. " Sears, Miss Hannah M., Ashfold. Seaver, A. W., Northboro'. Seeley, Rev. Raymond H., Haverhill. Seeley, Mrs. Fanny B. Selfridge, Thomas O., Besten. Shattuck, Andrew, Groton. Shaw, Mrs. Hannah, Boston. Sheldon, Rev. Luther H., Westbere'. Sheldon, Mrs. Sarah H. Shiverick, Miss Maria L., Campelle. *Sigourney, Andrew, Boston. Sigourney, Henry, Skillings, David N., Winckester. *Slack, Ruggles, Boston. Slafter, Rev. Edmund F., Small, Amos T., West Amesbury. Small, Mrs. Fidelia Porter, Millbury. Small, Samuel A., Small, Mrs. Sumner, Newton Centre. Smith, Albert W., Brookline. Smith, Mrs. Lucy Jane, Smith, Rev. Edward P., Pepperell. Smith, Mrs. Hattie J., Gloucester. Smith, Jonathan, Whitinsville. Smith, Rev. Matson M., Bridgeport, Ct. Smith, Mrs. Matson M. Smith, Norman, Groton. Smith, Richard, South Danvers. Smith, Mrs. Charlotte, " *Smith, Samuel, Boston. Smith, Mrs. Sarah, Andover. . Smith, Warren N., Whitinsville. Swist, Miss Lottie H., Andever. Snow, Mrs. Caroline, Newton Corner. Snow, Mrs. Mark, Chatham. Soule, Henry M., South Abington. Southgate, Rev. Robert, Ipowich. Southgate, Miss Frances S., Southgate, Mrs. Mary Frances,

Southworth, Mrs. Caroline M., Medway. Spooner, W. B., Besten. Spring, Mrs. Adela C., Whitinsville. Stacy, Albert, Concord. Stebbins, Rev. Milan C., Groton. Stevens, Norman C., Newton. Stevens, Mrs. E. M. Stevens, Samuel, Gloucester. *Stoddard, Lewis T., Breekline. Stone, Andrew L., D. D., Boston. Stone, Mrs. Matilda F., Stone, Martha A., Newton Centre. Storrs, Eunice C. Braintree. Storrs, Richard S., D. D. Stowell, Mrs. Abby Hubbard, Cencord. Stowell, Cyrus A., South Deerfield. Strong, Rev. J. C., St. Charles, Minnesota. Strong, Mrs. J. C., Studiey, Austin, East Abington. Sugden, Miss Mary, Braintres. Sumner, Mrs. H. H., Fezboro'. Swazey, Mrs. Frances A., Lynn. Swett, Samuel W., Boston. Swift, Miss Lottie H., Andover. Taft, Gustavus E., Whitinsvills. Tapley, Gilbert, Danvers. Tappan, John, Boston. Tarr, William J., Gloucester. Taylor, Mrs. Malansa, Winchester. Teele, Rev. Albert K., Milton. Teele, Mrs. Cornelia C. " Temple, Mark M., Reading. Tenney, Mrs. Mary P., Winchester. Terry, Rev. James P., South Weymouth. Thacher, Mrs. Anna B., Hyde Park. Thacher, Miss Calista C., Attlebore'. Thacher, John, " Thacher, Mrs Susan C. " Thacher, William T. Thacher, Susun B., Portland, Me. *Thatcher, Mary Ludlow, Middlebore'. Thayer, Amasa, Braintree. Thayer, E. F. E. Thayer, Ira, Thayer, Mrs. Lilla, Thayer, Rev. J. Henry, Andover. Thayer, Mrs. Martha C. Thayer, Oliver, *Thayer, Mrs. Jane, Boston. Thayer, Robert H., New York City. Thompson, Mrs. Emily B., Concord. Thompson, Everett A., West Amesbury. Thompson, Samuel A. Thompson, Mrs. Anne Eliza, " Thayer, Sarah H., Braintree. Thompson, George R., North Bridgeweter. Thompson, Stephen, Winchester. Thurston, Rev. Richard B., Stamford, Ct.

Tolman, Rev. Richard, Tewksbury. Tolman, Rev. Samuel H., Wilmington. Torrey, Miss Elizabeth L., South Weymouth. Torrey, James, North Weymouth. Track, Charles H., Jr., Manchester. Trask, Mrs. A. H., Trowbridge, Mrs. Asa, Brighton. Tucker, Rev. Elijah W., Lebanon, Ct. Tucker, Mrs. Hannah W. Tucker, Jesse, Tucker, Nathan, Tucker, Mrs. Nathan, " Tucker, John A., Dorchester. Tucker, William, Tucker, William W., Besten. Tufts, Charles, Andover. Tuttle, Miss Sarah, Wayland. Tuttle, Thomas S., Littleton. Twichell, John M., Fitchburg. Tyler, Jerom W., Besten. Underhill, R. v. John W., N. Amherst. Upton, Moses T., Salem. Vose, Miss Priscilla, Antrim, N. H. Vose, William H., Fitchburg. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. Wales, Erastus, East Randolph. Wales, Miss Mary Ann, Boston. Walker, Ellen A., East Abington. Walker, Miss Frances A., Haverhill. Walker, Rev. George F., Wellflest. Walker, John S., East Medway. Walker, Mrs. John 8. " Walker, Moses, Haverhill. Walker, Nathaniel, " Walker, Robert G., Besten. Walker, William M., East Abington. *Walley, Samuel H., Beston. Walley, Samuel H. Ward, Artemas, Ward, Mrs. Caroline L., Lakeville. Ward, Salem T., Winchester. Warner, William, South Described. Warren, George W., Boston. Warner, John, Newton. Warren, Mrs. Diantha A., Lynn. Warren, Mrs. Maria, Grafton. *Warren, Nebemiah, & Warren, Francis W. " Warren, Jonas, Warren, Lucinda, Warren, William A., Winchester. Watkins, Miss Abby A., Gloucester, Weeks, Mrs. L. Caroline, West Warren. Welch, John, Beston. Weld, James. Wells, Mrs. Martha D., Northboro. Wellman, Rev. Joshua W., Newton. Wendell, Mrs. Catharine, Boston.

Wentworth, Albert, Haverhill. Wheeler, Miss Abby F., Concord. Wheeler, Abijah R., East Medway. Whitcomb, Lewis, East Randolph. *Whitcomb, Reuben, Harvard. *Whitcomb, Reuben, Jr. Whitcomb, Mrs. Abby F. *Whitcomb, Mrs. Louisa D. " Whitcomb, Miss Mary M. White, Aaron L., Medway. White, Cornelius, South Randelph. *White, James, Boston. White, Josiah, Peterskam. White, Mrs. Mary C., Phillipston. White, Newton, East Randolph. Whitin, Charles P., Whitinsville. Whitin, Mrs. Catharine H. " Whitin, James F. Whitin, Mrs. Patience H. Whitin, Paul, Whitin, Mrs. Sarah J. " Whitin, Mrs. Sarah R., Whitman, Charles, Lowell. Whitmarsh, Mary, South Abington. Whitney, Charles H., Fitchburg. Whitney, Dora S., South Groton. Whitney, Helen J., Stow. Whitney, Isaac S., Gloucester. Whitney, Israel, Boston. Whitney, Mrs. Permelia V., Petersham. Whitney, Richard D., Springfold.

Whitney, Mrs. Susanna, Rutland. *Wigglesworth, Thomas, Besten. Wilbur, Joseph, Taunton. Wild, Daniel, Boston. Wilder, Hattie, Stow. Willcox, Rev. William H., Reading. Williams, Rev. Edward F., Whitinsville. Williams, Miss Mary D., Greenfeld. Williams, S. H., Fozboro'. Wilson, Rev. Thomas, Stoughton. Winslow, Pelham, East Abington. Winthrop, Robert C., Boston. *Winthrop, Thomas L. " Withington, Otis, Brookline. Wolcott, Mrs. Elizabeth, South Danvers. Wolcott, William, Woodbury, Simon J., Sutton. Wood, Mrs. Abijah, Westboro'. Wood, Elizabeth C., Foxboro'. Wood, Mrs. E. S., Whitinsville. Wood, Mrs. Samuel P., Chelmeford. Wood, Mrs. Susan, Groton. Woods, Miss Abbie Wheeler, Malden. Woods, Joseph Wheeler, Besten. Woods, Samuel H. Woodward, Ebenezer, Newton. Woodward, Miss Emily, Newton U. Falls. *Worthington, William, Besten. Wyman, Charles, Lancaster. Wyman, William G., Fitchburg.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

## Receipts from April 1, 1865, to April 1, 1866.

## BARNSTABLE COUNTY.

Barnstable, Centreville, Congregational Church and Society,		
(1 L. M.)	\$ 30	60
Chatham, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	22	97
Dennis, South, Congregational Church and Society,	10	<b>50</b>
Falmouth, First Congregational Church and Society,	33	<b>50</b>
" North Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.,		
A. B. S.)	31	50
Orleans, Congregational Church and Society,	8	00
	<b>\$</b> 137	07
ESSEX COUNTY.		
Amesbury, West, Congregational Church and Society, (3		
L. M.)	<b>\$</b> 67	30
Andover, Chapel Congregation, \$85 94; Prof. J. H. Thayer,	_	
<b>\$</b> 50;	135	94
" South Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	98	80
" Ballardvale, Congregational Church and Society	5	00
Beverly, Washington Street Church and Society, for Arabic		
Bible,	25	00
Boxford, West Congregational Church and Society,	9	00
" First Parish,	21	75
Bradford, Congregational Church,	51	53
Danvers, First Church,	43	00
" Maple Street Sabbath School,	40	92
Georgetown, First Congregational Society,	25	23
Gloucester, Evangelical Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	46	10
" Methodist Episcopal Church,	7	14
Groveland, Congregational Church and Society,	13	<b>55</b>
Hanover, Congregational Church and Society,	15	80
Haverhill, Centre Church, (1 L. M.)	80	<b>30</b>
" North Church, (2 L. M.)	114	80

Ipswich, First Church, (1 L. M.)	40	00
" Methodist Episcopal Church,	12	00
"South Church, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	34	<b>50</b>
Lawrence, Central Congregational Church, (2 L. M.)	44	<b>51</b>
" Lawrence Street Church and Society,	122	75
Lynn, First Church,	35	55
" St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church,	23	87
West, Swanton Whitmore, (1 L. M. in part,)	10	00
" Central Church, (1 L. M.)	28	05
Manchester, Church and Society of Rev. F. V. Tenney, (1 L. M.)	25	92
Marblehead, First Congregational Church and Society,		50
Newbury, First Church,		20
Newburyport, North Congregational Church and Society,	_	99
"Belleville, Congregational Church and Society,		
(1 L. M.)	91	86
Salem, Crombie Street Church and Society,		50
" South Church and Society,		43
" Tabernacle Church and Society,		01
Topsfield, Congregational Church and Society,		00
reported, congregational charter and bookery,		<del></del>
	1,568	80
FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.  Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.		
	<b>\$</b> 11	<i>5</i> 0
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  Second Congregational Church and Society,  .	•	50 00
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  Second Congregational Church and Society,  Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. M.)	20	
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  Second Congregational Church and Society,  Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. M.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,	20 20	00
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  Second Congregational Church and Society,  Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. m.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  .	20 20 4	00 00
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  Second Congregational Church and Society,  Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. m.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,	20 20 4 5	00 00 00
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Congregational Church and Society,  "Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. m.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Deerfield, Legacy of Sidney Benton, (1 L. m., A. B. S.)	20 20 4 5 6	00 00 00 00
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Congregational Church and Society,  "Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. m.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Deerfield, Legacy of Sidney Benton, (1 L. m., A. B. s.)  "South, Monument Church,	20 20 4 5 6 30 20	00 00 00 00 00 00
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Congregational Church and Society,  "Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. m.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Deerfield, Legacy of Sidney Benton, (1 L. m., A. B. s.)  "South, Monument Church,  Gill, Congregational Church and Society,	20 20 4 5 6 30 20 2	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 66
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Congregational Church and Society,  "Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. M.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Deerfield, Legacy of Sidney Benton, (1 L. M., A. B. S.)  "South, Monument Church,  Gill, Congregational Church and Society,  Greenfield, First Church and Society,	20 20 4 5 6 30 20 2	00 00 00 00 00 00 66 60
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Congregational Church and Society,  "Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. M.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Deerfield, Legacy of Sidney Benton, (1 L. M., A. B. S.)  "South, Monument Church,  Gill, Congregational Church and Society,  Greenfield, First Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	20 20 4 5 6 30 20 2	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 66
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Congregational Church and Society,  "Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. m.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  "South, Monument Church,  "South, Monument Church,  Gill, Congregational Church and Society,  Greenfield, First Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society, (2 L. m.)  Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, Gent. Associ-	20 20 4 5 6 30 20 2 21 40	00 00 00 00 00 00 66 60 16
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Congregational Church and Society,  "Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. M.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Bouth, Legacy of Sidney Benton, (1 L. M., A. B. S.)  "South, Monument Church,  Gill, Congregational Church and Society,  Greenfield, First Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, Gent. Association, \$25 25; Ladies' do. \$18 25;	20 20 4 5 6 30 20 2 21 40	00 00 00 00 00 00 66 60 16
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Congregational Church and Society,  "Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. M.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  "South, Monument Church,  "South, Monument Church,  Gill, Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, Gent. Association, \$25 25; Ladies' do. \$18 25;  Warwick, Trinitarian Church and Society,	20 20 4 5 6 30 20 2 21 40	00 00 00 00 00 66 60 16
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Congregational Church and Society,  "Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. M.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  "South, Monument Church,  "South, Monument Church,  Gill, Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, Gent. Association, \$25 25; Ladies' do. \$18 25;  Warwick, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Whately, Congregational Church and Society,	20 20 4 5 6 30 20 2 21 40 43 8 17	00 00 00 00 00 66 60 16
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Congregational Church and Society,  "Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. M.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  "South, Monument Church,  "South, Monument Church,  Gill, Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, Gent. Association, \$25 25; Ladies' do. \$18 25;  Warwick, Trinitarian Church and Society,	20 20 4 5 6 30 20 2 21 40	00 00 00 00 00 66 60 16
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Congregational Church and Society,  "Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. M.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  "South, Monument Church,  "South, Monument Church,  Gill, Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, Gent. Association, \$25 25; Ladies' do. \$18 25;  Warwick, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Whately, Congregational Church and Society,	20 20 4 5 6 30 20 2 21 40 43 8 17	00 00 00 00 00 00 66 60 16
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, First Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Congregational Church and Society,  "Mrs. Azarilla Sears, (1 L. M.)  Bernardston, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  Claremont, Congregational Church and Society,  "South, Monument Church,  "South, Monument Church,  Gill, Congregational Church and Society,  "Second Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, Gent. Association, \$25 25; Ladies' do. \$18 25;  Warwick, Trinitarian Church and Society,  Whately, Congregational Church and Society,	20 20 4 5 6 30 20 2 21 40 43 8 17 129	00 00 00 00 00 00 66 60 16

## HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.

Mr. Roderick	BURT,	Springfield,	Tr.
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MI. RODERICK BURT, Springfield, Ir.			
Donations,	•	<b>\$</b> 120	21
For Bibles, \$ 1,312 77		•	
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY.			
Easthampton, Payson Church,	•	<b>3</b> 124	96
MIDDI HORY COMMIN			
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.			
Acton, Congregational Church and Society,	•	<b>\$</b> 2	00
Auburndale, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	•	30	00
Cambridge, East, Mrs. J. M. Tyler, (1 L. M., A. B. S.) .	•	30	00
Concord, Miss Margaret R. Gourgas, (1 L. M.)	•	20	00
"Union Bible Society, \$100; From the estate	of		
Martha S. Munroe, 120,	•	220	00
Dunstable, Congregational Church and Society,	•		75
Groton, South, Mrs. John Spalding,			00
Holliston, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	•		93
Lincoln, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,	•		00
	•	_	
Littleton, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M. in part,	·)		62
Lowell, John Street Church,	•		50
"Appleton Street Church,	•		35
" High Street Church,	•	-	63
" Miss Emily Rogers, (for A. B. s.)	•	5	00
" A friend, (1 L. D., A. B. S.)	•	150	00
Medford, Mystic Church,	•	19	00
Newton Centre, A friend,	•	5	00
" A friend,	•	5	00
" Congregational Church and Society, .	•	57	01
" Mrs. Cushing,	•	5	00
Pepperell, Congregational Church and Society,		10	
Sherborn, Reading and Benevolent Society, (1 L. M.)	•	20	
Shirley Village, Congregational Church and Society, .	•		00
Somerville, First Orthodox Church and Society, (3 L. M.)	•	60	
South Reading, First Congregational Church and Society, bal	• I		00
Tewksbury, Congregational Church and Society,	••	46	
Townsend, Congregational Church and Society,	•		
	•		07
Waltham, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society,	•	35	
Wayland, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	•	28	UÜ
West Cambridge, Orthodox Congregational Church and So	1	• • •	
ciety,	•	113	
Westford, Congregational Church and Society,	•	11	
Winchester, Congregational Church and Society, (5 L. M.)	•	106	84
	-	1 1 4	0.5
	•	1,164	<b>50</b>

## NORFOLK COUNTY.

Braintree, First Congregational Church and Society, \$27; A		
friend, \$40; (2 L. M.)	<b>\$</b> 67	00
Dedham, First Church, (1 L. M.)	57	39
" South, Congregational Church and Society, (for		
A. B. S.)	12	45
Dorchester, Village Church, (1 L. M.)	26	74
" A friend, balance, (1 L. M.)	10	00
" J. F. P.,	10	00
Franklin, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., A. B. S.)	<b>55</b>	12
" Mrs. Hattie E. Stanley, deceased, (1 L. M., A. B. S.)	30	00
Foxboro', Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	40	80
Jamaica Plain, Mrs. Charles Bradford,	6	00
Medway, Village Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	32	65
" First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	34	67
Randolph, East, Winthrop Church and Society,	38	92
Weymouth, Congregational Church and Society,	33	<b>50</b>
" South, Church and Society of J. P. Terry, .	25	<b>50</b>
" Union Congregational Church and Society,	16	<b>50</b>
	<b>\$</b> 497	24
PLYMOUTH COUNTY.		
Abington, First Church, of which \$20, by Mr. Jacob Noyes,		
(for 1 L. M.)	<b>\$</b> 85	00
" South, Congregational Church and Society, (1	•	
L. M.)	28	<b>58</b>
Campello, Congregational Church and Society,	44	00
	• •	00
Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society,	11	UU
Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.) .		05
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)	68	05
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)  Marshfield, A friend,	68	05 75 00
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)  Marshfield, A friend,  Middleboro', North, Mrs. E. G. Little, (1 L. M. in part,)	68 10 34	05 75 00
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)  Marshfield, A friend,  Middleboro', North, Mrs. E. G. Little, (1 L. M. in part,)  "First Congregational Church and Society,  "Central Church,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,	68 10 34 12	05 75 00 43
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)  Marshfield, A friend,  Middleboro', North, Mrs. E. G. Little, (1 L. M. in part,)  "First Congregational Church and Society,  "Central Church,  "Central Church,	68 10 34 12	05 75 00 43 00
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)  Marshfield, A friend,  Middleboro', North, Mrs. E. G. Little, (1 L. M. in part,)  "First Congregational Church and Society,  "Central Church,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,	68 10 34 12 5	05 75 00 43 00 00
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)  Marshfield, A friend,  Middleboro', North, Mrs. E. G. Little, (1 L. M. in part,)  "First Congregational Church and Society,  "Central Church,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Plymouth, Second Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	68 10 34 12 5 20 33	05 75 00 43 00 00 00
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)  Marshfield, A friend,  Middleboro', North, Mrs. E. G. Little, (1 L. M. in part,)  "First Congregational Church and Society,  "Central Church,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Plymouth, Second Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	68 10 34 12 5 20	05 75 00 43 00 00 00
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)  Marshfield, A friend,  Middleboro', North, Mrs. E. G. Little, (1 L. M. in part,)  "First Congregational Church and Society,  "Central Church,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Plymouth, Second Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	68 10 34 12 5 20 33	05 75 00 43 00 00 00
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)  Marshfield, A friend,	68 10 34 12 5 20 33	05 75 00 43 00 00 00
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)  Marshfield, A friend,  Middleboro', North, Mrs. E. G. Little, (1 L. M. in part,)  "First Congregational Church and Society,  "Central Church,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Plymouth, Second Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  SUFFOLK COUNTY.  Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,	68 10 34 12 5 20 33	05 75 00 43 00 00 00
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)  Marshfield, A friend,  Middleboro', North, Mrs. E. G. Little, (1 L. M. in part,)  "First Congregational Church and Society,  "Central Church,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Plymouth, Second Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  SUFFOLK COUNTY.  Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,  "Rev. Mr. Alden, Broadway,  "Rev. Mr. Alden, Broadway,	68 10 34 12 5 20 33 \$ 351	05 75 00 43 00 00 00 10
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)  Marshfield, A friend,	68 10 34 12 5 20 33 \$ 351	05 75 00 43 00 00 10 91
North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (3 L. M.)  Marshfield, A friend,  Middleboro', North, Mrs. E. G. Little, (1 L. M. in part,)  "First Congregational Church and Society,  "Central Church,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Plymouth, Second Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  SUFFOLK COUNTY.  Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,  "Rev. Mr. Alden, Broadway,  "Rev. Mr. Alden, Broadway,	68 10 34 12 5 20 33 \$ 351	05 75 00 43 00 00 10 91

Boston, Bromfield Street Methodist Episcopal Church,	•		71
" D Street Methodist Episcopal Church, .	• •	6	00
" Evangelical Union Sabbath School, East Bosto	on, .	4	10
" Mrs. C. F. Pope, (1 L. M.)	• •	20	00
" Mrs. Raymond, (1 L. M.)	•	20	00
" Rev. Charles E. Lord, (1 L. M.)	•	20	00
" Rev. Giles Pease, for the Freedmen,	• •	5	00
" Mrs. Mansfield,		2	00
" A friend, \$1; do. 32c.; do. 65c.; do. \$1;	• •	2	97
		<b>-</b>	
		<b>\$ 487</b>	82
WORCESTER COUNTY.			
Berlin, First Congregational Church and Society, .		<b>\$</b> 16	91
Clinton, First Evangelical Church and Society, .		86	46
Fitchburg, Calvinistic Congregational Church and S	ociety,		
(2 L. M., A. B. S.)	•	71	85
Grafton, Evangelical Congregational Church and Soci			
L. M., A. B. S.)	•	30	00
Harvard, Evangelical Congregational Church and Soc. (	1 L. M.)	29	60
Lancaster, Mrs. Mary K. Jones,			00
Leominster, Evangelical Congregational Church, J. H	askell.		00
Lunenburg, Evangelical Congregational Church and S			25
Millbury, First Church and Society, (1 L. M.)			04
New Braintree, Congregational Church and Society, b	alance.	•	
(2 L. M.)		32	60
Phillipston, Congregational Church and Society, .			55
Southbridge, Congregational Church and Society,			62
" Globe Village Congregational Church as	ad So-		
ciety,		14	07
Spencer, Congregational Church and Society, .			25
Sutton, Congregational Church and Society,			00
Templeton, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. 1	(.)	30	
" First Congregational Church and Society,			25
Upton, Congregational Church and Society, balance,			50
Westboro', Evangelical Congregational Church, .		55	
Whitinsville, Congregational Church and Society, (5 L	. м.)	510	
Winchendon, North Church,			60
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			
	•	1,037	19
MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS	•		
Atkinson, N. H., Abigail L. Page, (1 L. M.)		20	00
Derry, N. H., Miss Abby Choate, (for A. B. s.)	•		00
East Woodstock, Ct., Congregational Church and S	ociety.		~~
(for A. B. s.)		5	00
Exeter, N. H., A friend,	•		00
	•	<b>* *</b>	

New England Conference of M. E.	. Church		•	•	•	<b>5</b> 60	87
Thetford, Vt., Miss Lucy Child, (1	L. M. in	part,)	•	•	•	5	00
Walpole, Simeon N. Perry, .		•	•	•	•	30	00
Philippopolis, Turkey, Rev. and	Mrs. J.	F. Cla	rk,	Missio	n-		
aries A. B. C. F		•	•	•	•	10	00
						<b>\$</b> 652	87
COLLI	ECTION	8.					
By the Rev. E. F. SLAFTER, A	gent of t	he Am	erica	m Bib	le So	ciety.	
St. John's Church, Framingham,	• •	•	•	•	•	<b>\$ 48</b>	27
Ascension Church, Fall River,		•	•	•	•	19	07
St. Paul's Church, Brookline,	•	•	•	•	•	208	25
" For	Bibles,	<b>\$</b> 50.					
St. John's Church, Lowell, .	•	•	•	•	•	12	88
Church of the Messiah, Boston,		•	•	•	•	40	00
Grace Church, Medford, .		•	•	•	•	2	00
St. Luke's Church, Chelsea, .		•	•	•	•	12	00
Grace Church, Malden,		•	•	•	•	3	37
St. Paul's Church, Dedham, .		•	•	•	•	50	00
St. Michael's Church, Marblehead		•	•	•	•	75	<b>56</b>
Samuel Dorr,	•	•	•	•	•		00
Calvary Church, Danvers, .		•	•	•	•		60
St. Peter's Church, Beverly, on Bi		ınt. S	<b>20</b> <i>8</i>	50.			
Trinity Church, Haverhill,			•	•		13	<b>53</b>
St. Andrew's Church, Hanover,	•	•	•	•	•		76
Grace Church, Lawrence, .		•	•	•	•		30
Christ Church, Plymouth, .		•	•	•	•		00
Christ Church, Oxford,		•		•	•		13
Grace Church, Newton Corner,	•	•		•	•		86
St. Thomas' Church, Taunton,		•	_	•	•		29
St. Peter's Church, Cambridgeport		•	•	•	•		15
From C.,	• •	•		•	•		00
St. James's Church, Roxbury,		•	•	•	•	108	
St. John's Church, Charlestown,			•	•	•		22
Christ Church, Waltham, .		•	•	•	•		00
Trinity Church, Wrentham, .		•	•		•		00
St. Peter's Church, Salem, .	•	•	•	•	•		00
St. Paul's Church, Newburyport,	•	•	•	•	•		00
St. Paul's Church, Boston, .	•	•	•	•	•	831	
_	• •	•	•	•	•	100	
"G."	•	•	•	•	•	880	
	• •	•	•	•	•	923	
Emmanuel Church, Boston, .		•	•	•	•	150	
St. John's Church, Jamaica Plain,	•	•	•	•	•	100	

\$ 8,904 80

#### LEGACIES.

Boston, Constantany Farley Lowell, Mary B. Allen, \$10									\$ 237 95	
									<b>\$</b> 332	50
Annual subscriptions, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	502	42
Interest and dividends, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	1,673	00
Returned for books granted	, .		•	•	•	•	•	•	1	<b>55</b>
Sales,	•	,	•	•	•	•	•	•	16,589	46

### FORM OF A BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY.

I give, devise and bequeath, to the MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY, incorporated in the year Eighteen hundred and ten, the sum of to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of the Society.

LETTERS relating to Agencies, or to the general interests and policy of the Society, should be directed to Rev. Daniel Butler, Recording Secretary, 15 Cornhill, Boston.

Remittances for Books, donations from churches and individuals, and orders for Books, should be directed to S. T. FARWELL, Agent, 15 Cornhill, Boston.

# ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY

## THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

# MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY,

## AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING

IN BOSTON,

MAY 27, 1867, BEING THEIR FIFTY-EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON, 42 CONGRESS STREET.

1867.



# OFFICERS

OF THE

# MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY, 1867-8.

#### PRESIDENT.

# Hon. SAMUEL H. WALLEY.

#### VICE PRESIDENTS.

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# ANNUAL REPORT.

In presenting a statement of their labors for the past year, the Trustees of the Massachusetts Bible Society are compelled to follow essentially a beaten track. The facts reported must necessarily resemble, in kind, those given in former years. The book which it is the object of our Association to circulate, is the oldest in the world. It is also the most common. We see every day at least the covers that inclose it, and every day these two-leaved gates are opened to not a few of us. Then our especial field is old, as old as our race, and it lies in sight of all our dwellings. It is the poor, the poor in heart, in life and estate, and these we have always with us.

And still we would hope that though wanting the charm of novelty, the details of our work may not be without interest to the friends of truth. The sun is very old, and its work each year but a repetition of what it has done before, yet we have not ceased to admire the skill with which, in each successive year, it paints the lily and clothes with life and beauty our world; nor do we think or speak of it as something worn out by long use or superseded by the improvements of a progressive age. The showers that refresh the earth lose none of their attraction because in kind they are old, and the husbandman shouts the harvest home with a joy in no wise diminished by the recollection of similar gifts bestowed in previous years. With sincere pleasure we record the fact, that during the year we have been allowed to place the Scriptures in the hands of not a few to whom they were but little known—that through our associated efforts there are homes graced to-day by the presence of Patriarchs and Prophets and Apostles and the Lord of life, in their inspired utterances, while many thousands of copies of the Word have been distributed through the community, bearing with them the promise that they shall not return void.

There have been issued from our Depository, during the year, fifty thousand two hundred and sixty-nine volumes. Of this number, eighteen thousand and ninety-eight were Bibles; nineteen thousand two hundred and twenty-three Testaments; six thousand seven hundred and forty-seven Testaments with the Psalms, and the remainder were smaller portions of the Scriptures. Of the whole number, twelve hundred and four were in various foreign languages.

There have been circulated gratuitously twelve

thousand five hundred and forty-six volumes, costing \$4,706.27. Of these four thousand two hundred and ten were Bibles, five thousand two hundred and ninety Testaments, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-one Testaments with the Psalms, and the remainder in smaller portions of the Scriptures. Sailors, Sabbath Schools, City Missions, Public Institutions and public houses and our own destitute poor have, as in other years, received largely of this charity. But this does not include all our field. Natives of Massachusetts and others residing in different parts of the country, often find it more convenient to get their supplies here, than elsewhere, and in response to their requests, we have made appropriations for the supply of poor and destitute persons in Maine, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont, in New Jersey, Tennessee, Michigan, Kansas, North Carolina, Nova Scotia and Hayti, while one thousand six hundred and eighty-seven copies have been given directly to the Freedmen, through our people laboring among them.

It was stated in our last Report, that the Rev. A. M. Osgood had been employed to canvass the towns in Barnstable County. After laboring for three months, with great diligence and success, he was compelled, on account of ill-health, to suspend his labors. In this time he canvassed the towns of Falmouth, Barnstable, Sandwich, Yarmouth, Dennis, and a part of Provincetown. He visited two thousand one hundred and forty-

five families. Among these were eighty-nine destitute of the Scriptures, twenty-five of whom were supplied by sale or gift. Of twenty-six individuals having no Bibles, seventeen were supplied as above. One hundred and forty-four Bibles were sold and given away, and two hundred and thirty-three Testaments and eighty-six smaller portions of the Bible, amounting in all to four hundred and sixty-three copies. In his report he says: "I called on many whom no minister visits. Two shut the door against me, some scoffed, some were totally indifferent, while others received me as an angel of the Lord." The health of our Agent is so far restored as to allow him to resume his labors and we anticipate their speedy completion. It is also proposed to canvass the city of Boston in whole, or in part, as shall be found desirable. This work, often performed in other portions of the State, has never, we believe, been attempted here, and we are convinced that it should not longer be delayed. It is also our intention to re-distribute the Scriptures in other · portions of the State, as the means and opportunities for doing it shall be afforded. The great changes continually taking place in our population make frequent repetitions of this work needful.

The income of the Society, including a balance on hand at the beginning of the year of \$2,123.41, has been \$40,697.22. In donations, annual subscriptions and legacies, \$15,968.62; dividends on

stock and interest, \$1,235.50; sales of books, \$21,355.81; return for books donated, \$13.88. In addition to the amount received into our treasury, there has been sent directly to the American Bible Society the further sum of \$23,624.13, making the whole amount raised in Massachusetts, deducting the balance for last year, \$62,197.94.

The expenditures have been as follows: for books, \$27,334.47; for General Agent, Depository Agent, and Assistant, paper, printing, rent, and incidental expenses, \$5,648.67; to the American Bible Society, \$5,064.29; leaving a balance in the treasury of \$2,649.79.

A reference to our former Reports will show that the amount here acknowledged from donations and legacies and from the sale of books, is largely in excess of that received in any previous year.

Since the last Anniversary, two of our number have been removed by death. One of these, the Rev. William Jenks, D. D., held the office of Trustee for forty-six years. Through all this period, the Society enjoyed his wise counsels and his ready aid. His life was spent in the critical study and exposition of divine truth, and for its diffusion his time and his labors were freely bestowed.

The Hon. Stephen Fairbanks was a member of the Board of Trustees for fourteen years, and was never, we believe, in a single instance, absent from its meetings, unless detained by illness or

absence from the city. He loved the Bible, and ever manifested a lively interest in the work of the Society.

While we mourn the loss of these revered and valued associates, we are grateful for the illustration they gave in their long lives, of the power of the Gospel, while in their remembered example we are furnished with fresh incentives to diligence in our appointed work.

The American Bible Society reports a year of enlarged activity. \$734,089.14 have been received into its treasury. Its total issues, domestic and foreign, have reached the large number of one million two hundred and fifty-seven thousand nine hundred and sixty volumes, of which more than two hundred and forty-one thousand were circulated abroad. The printing of the Arabic Bible is going forward with all practicable dispatch. The plates for the Standard Bible, and the vowelled New Testament and Psalms, will be finished by the 15th of July. By this time the types will be cast for another edition of the Bible.

At the Anniversary a year since, it was resolved to undertake the re-supply of the whole country with the Scriptures. "This great work is actively progressing; three hundred and thirty-four auxiliaries are reported as having canvassed and supplied their fields. Many others are engaged in or preparing for this distribution." Four hundred and ninety-six thousand families have been visited and of forty-one thousand found

destitute of the Scriptures thirty-six thousand and five hundred were supplied by sale or gift. Leaving four thousand six hundred unsupplied. As the destitute are largely Romanists, this result is as gratifying as it was unexpected. thousand five hundred destitute individuals were also supplied. The peculiar condition of the Southern States has called for special labor, and nearly three hundred thousand copies of the Scriptures have been sent there within the year. "The freedmen have been largely supplied with the Bible, and special attention is given to them by those employed in this work and by auxiliaries, and benevolent associations and churches in every part of the South." As friends of our country, and as friends of truth, we rejoice at the prosperity of this venerable Institution, which in the extent of its operations and its beneficent influence, resembles one of those agencies in nature by which our earth is made fruitful. Exhaled like a cloud from the hearts of the truthloving, it bears its treasures to the thirsty places over all our land, and far off wildernesses are made glad by its coming. Our fervent thanks are due to Him who, in a period of intense denominational activity, inclines such multitudes to merge for a season their peculiarities in the simple and sublime work of diffusing the Word of God through the world. Our Report to-day gives evidence that the number of such is enlarging among us. It shows most conclusively the need of its further increase.

# ANNUAL MEETING.

THE FIFTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING of the MASSA-CHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY was held at the Rooms of the Society, No. 15 Cornhill, on Monday, May 27, 1867, at nine o'clock, A. M. The President, Hon. Samuel H. Walley in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. John O. Mrans.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer, Charles Henry Parker, Esq., presented his Annual Report, which was read and accepted.

The Fifty-eighth Annual Report of the Trustees was presented by the Recording Secretary, when it was

Voted, That the reading of the same be deferred till the public meeting in the afternoon.

The Officers of the Society were elected for the ensuing year.

The Society then adjourned to attend the public services of the Fifty-eighth Anniversary, at the Mount Vernon Church, at three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Scriptures were read, and prayer offered by Rev. Charles N. Smith, of Charlestown.

A hymn was sung.

The Report of the Trustees was read and accepted.

The Rev. James G. Vose, of Providence, R. I., then addressed the assembly.

# ADDRESS OF REV. JAMES G. VOSE.

# MR. PRESIDENT:

Since the Word of God was made known upon earth, it has been to the vast majority a sealed book. First, by reason of the ignorance of men, or rather the small attainment they had made in the arts, and second, because of their wickedness. For ages the intellect of man was crippled for want of the art of printing and the invention of paper. Both these were necessary that man might become familiar with God's Word by daily use. Even to the Jews the book of the law was so far as the people at large were concerned, "a well shut up, a fountain sealed." Though they could hear it read on the Sabbath, and though the elders took part in the reading, yet for many this was an impossibility. After the Christian era the same difficulty continued, and has even increased by the greater size and volume of the sacred books. At length, in the progress of ages came the art of arts, that which bears the crown and takes precedence of all inventions, that of printing. It was given of God, and was sought of men to release the Bible. Its first application was to For the first century or more, it would seem as if little other use was made of it, than to publish the Word of God. In the reign of Edward VI., a full century after the invention of printing, there were only 57 printers in England, of whom 31, or more than half, were wholly employed in printing the Holy Scriptures.

But now came in the second cause which has made the Bible to such multitudes of our race a sealed book, viz. the wickedness of man. Persecution attacked the printing press, and drove the godly printers out of England, until, on the accession of Queen Elizabeth, a new impulse was given to the sacred work.

"The morrow after her coronation," says Lord Bacon, "it being the custom to release prisoners, one of her courtiers besought her with a loud voice, that now this good time there might be four or five principal prisoners released. When asked who they were, he said, the four Evangelists and the Apostle Paul."

Ages have passed since then, and the Word of God has found access to almost every land; but the question is still pertinent to-day—Would it not be best to inquire whether these four principal prisoners, with their goodly fellowship of earlier and later writers, shall not be set at liberty. I say, set at liberty, for that is precisely the question before us. Shall these principal prisoners be released? It may seem strange to some, who have not thought upon the subject, that the question should be asked at this day, Is the Bible free? Paul declared, eighteen hundred years ago, that the Word of God is not bound. But he signified by that, the hope that triumphed in his own mind, that no prison chains could hold God's Word forever captive. It is not yet wholly set free. It is our mission to make it free, to enter every hamlet and to find audience in every heart. There are immense classes in our own land, as well as in other lands, whom the Bible has not reached. The work of this Society is not merely to aid in the distribution of the Scriptures in foreign tongues among heathen nations; but here at home, its work was never greater than at this precise moment. God has been pleased to send thousands of immigrants from Papal nations, that they might receive the Word of God from us. They are not only ignorant of the Bible, but are taught to regard it a crime to read it. It was my pleasure recently in the city of Providence, to listen to the experience of two converted Romanists, from different countries of the old world. Neither had ever seen the Bible until they arrived at mature years. One of them on coming to this country, utterly neglected the services of the Papal church, and fell into skepticism and immorality.

Being a man of considerable intelligence and love of reading, he applied his mind assiduously to the works of Voltaire and But even then, though ready to scoff at the Thomas Paine. pretensions of the Romish Church, her power was still so great over him, that he dared not read the Bible. According to his own statement, though often wishing to know what the Bible contained, and to judge for himself, he was deterred by a superstitious fear of the denunciations of the Church. At length he was led by a friend to attend a Protestant house of worship, and there becoming convicted of sin, he was induced to seek salvation in the Word of God. He procured a Bible in large print, that he might study in the evenings, when his work was done, the Revelation of the Son of God. To him the sealed book was open, and the messengers of salvation had free access to his soul. There are multitudes in our land who labor under the same depressing superstition. It is our part to make the Bible free, and as it were to set it in the pathway of them all.

It is said to be a remark of the late Archbishop Hughes, that no man was ever converted by reading the Bible without note or comment. I know not precisely what he meant by it. Certainly no man was ever converted to Romanism by such means. Yet facts well attested show that men have been brought to Christ by that means simply; and while it is in general true that men need a living preacher, as well as a living Gospel, the preacher who puts the Bible in the hand of the listener and can induce him to open and study that, has the only security of producing a permanent effect. Thus Christ appealed to his Jewish hearers, and thus every true follower of Christ presses home the truth by appealing to the written Word. When George Borrow, author of that remarkable book, "The Bible in Spain," listened to the monks and preachers of the Romish Church, he found them often quoting from the Bible, but in almost every case their quotations were from the Apocrypha. In some of the towns of Spain, where he distributed the New Testament, he thought best to leave but a few copies, lest the priests should seize them, or lest their frequency should diminish somewhat the curiosity with which they were hailed by a people who had been so long forbidden their use. But our case is quite different from this. The Bible in our land is not under ban; it is wilfully and ignorantly rejected by thousands, who need its comfort and its instructions. It is ours to take from them all excuse; to put it into the hands of children as soon as they can read; to place it beneath the tearful eye of the mourner, who is hopeless and despairing without it; to shame the superstitious into a complete throwing off the trammels of the priesthood, that they may learn and judge for themselves.

But now, some one may ask—Is it needful to multiply to such an extent the copies of God's Word.? Are there not enough in America to supply every man, woman, and child? there are not, and even if there were, that is no proof that we do not need more. The family Bible will not answer to carry to the church and the Sunday School. The Testament will not always supply our need, and yet sometimes it is all we can take with us. The young eyes that learned with delight the verses in a little Bible, will grow older, and need by and by larger type as well as spectacles. The child cherishes his mother's Bible, though it may not suit his daily use so well as another, and he may prefer to lay it in a choice place, for special hours of remembrance. A house is hardly well furnished without a dozen Bibles in some form or other. Each chamber must have its copy, that the guest may have no excuse to salute the morning hour, without listening to the voice of God. And every different form or style in which we possess the Word of God, may have the power of giving truth a new vividness, just as Nature's thousand hues and varying dress set forth to the devout heart with fresh life the glory of God. What then shall we say of the countless households that have it not, of the thousands in our great cities and in our wide country who possess not a line or leaf of this holy truth. The poor slaves, just set free, crave of us this book. They are willing to receive it, they long for it. Their strongest motive in learning to read, is that they may possess this holy book. Within six months after the close of the war, ten thousand of them, according to the testimony of Gen. Howard, learned to read. We must print Bibles to suit them, we must consult their taste, by making the Bible attractive. We must print for the old and the young, in larger and in smaller portions, that each may possess and call his own God's message to him. No danger that there should be too

many. Let them be multiplied as the very leaves of the forest. So shall we fulfill Paul's glorious vision in the Roman prison—"The Word of God is not bound."

But some one may still ask—"Do you not thus make the Bible too cheap, and expose it to the irreverence and the blasphemy of men?" Ah! this is the old Romish notion of reverencing a thing by hiding it. It may indeed be true, that when the Bible is freely offered, many will abuse it. You have been pained, perhaps, by noticing the Bibles in the saloon of a steamboat, or the parlor of a hotel, scribbled on and defaced by some rude and wanton hand. Many of the Bibles of this Society are tossed neglectfully into a corner, and not one word of them read. Of the earlier editions of the Bible many were burned, and of the later editions in this and other countries not a few are ruthlessly destroyed. From age to age the work needs constant renewal, and the Bibles that have served one generation will not answer for another. The ravages of time and the waste and wickedness of man require that this work of Bible distribution should be carried on with even greater vigor. If Papists destroy and secrete our Bibles, we must multiply them, so that they cannot find room to hide, or time to burn them. It is wise economy to distribute the leaves of divine truth, as God has scattered the flowers of the field. The foot may crush them, the beast may devour them, but their beauty and their profusion afford a precious lesson to man. If but here and there one of these copies of God's Word is blessed to any soul, the fruit so garnered is above all price. The seeds of every plant are numerous, and God has provided against waste and loss by multiplying the seeds almost to infinity. Let our sowing be abundant like his. The way to beget reverence for God's Word is not to make it rare, but to make it familiar. The poets do not fear that their works will become common or little valued, by multiplying their editions. In our day, the greatest pains are taken to reproduce old and famous works. Genius and labor unite to make familiar in our homes the poems of Homer and of Dante. It is said that after the death of Dante, his Divine Comedy, as it is styled, was read in the churches of Italy on the Sabbath, and better so than that a service should be rehearsed, which none could understand. But let us who have the Bible and the printing press, make its blessed pages as universal and countless as the grass that springs by every roadside. This Society is an auxiliary to every other. It is a necessity that every religious work or effort should found upon it. Wherever the heart is sensitive to religious truth, whatever influence awakens the mind to reflection, whether it be of sickness, grief, or fear, there the Bible should be, accessible and in attractive form, that the hand that feels after truth may always find it, that the eye that searches after God may always rest upon it, and that whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

After the singing of another hymn the meeting was further addressed by the Rev. Henry C. Potter, D. D., of Boston, and by Rev. Andrew P. Peabody, D. D., of Harvard University.

ADDRESS OF REV. HENRY C. POTTER, D. D.

# MR. PRESIDENT:

Looking back, to-day, upon the little band of men, who, in 1804, projected the British and Foreign Bible Society; and, later still, to those clear and venerable names, in our own land, who, in 1816, associated themselves in the city of New York, for a similar work, it is not difficult to understand the directness of appeal with which that work at first spoke to every Christian heart, nor the wide-spread enthusiasm which it evoked. To think of men, not only in heathen but in Christian lands, without a Bible; to think of households, wanting their best boon, in that they were without the written Word of God, was like the thought of some exiled child, denied a mother's dying message, or some storm-tossed voyager, bereft of helm and compass. "No home without a Bible," was a watch-word which most effectually awakened the whole of Protestant Christendom.

I will not say that it is a spell which has lost its power. I will not affirm that the Church of Christ has grown cold to this work. To say that, would be to ignore what we have heard to-day,—the story of the work of this Society, so full and real in its encouragement. But it is, undeniably, a work which has passed its first enthusiasm, and which has reached that stage in

its history, where, in similar enterprises, doubts and discouragements not unfrequently obtrude themselves. In the ongoing of worldly enterprises, there comes, often, a similar movement. When, in the harbor of Palos, Columbus and his companions were freighting their little fleet and heaving anchor for the westward voyage, there was no lack of glow and ardor. It was only as that voyage lengthened, and the undertaking grew monotonous, and the final success seemed, to their short-seeing eyes, so dim and doubtful—only then, that distrust found expression, and bated murmurings broke into open mutiny. Even so, in our larger, nobler work. We have passed the fresh enthusiasm of the morning, and reached the burden and heat of the In an age which craves the novel and the startling, there is, concerning such a work as this, not a great deal that is novel and startling to relate. Now, as of old, the kingdom of God cometh not with observation; -not with the clangor of heraldic trumpets, nor the pomp of armed hosts. Silently and unobtrusively the Spirit of God, using His written Word as its hallowed and resistless instrument, goes on, doing its work. And its fruit is the old story; old, yet forever new-old as the Cross on Calvary, and yet new and fresh as the quickening tide of life which flows from out that Cross! Other than this, in such a work as ours, there is little to tell. And of this, all is not, and cannot be told. The work of the circulation of the Scriptures is a work supremely of faith. Oftener than otherwise is it a work done under ground. And when its late but certain fruitage comes at last to the surface, it is not always easy to tell how much is due to the first planting, and how much to other and subsequent influences.

More than this. In some minds there is an unconfessed doubt about the work, from quite another cause. This is an age of busy and prolific scholarship, and in nothing is that scholarship more active and profuse than in criticisms, versions, commentaries and expositions of the sacred text. Taking up such a work as that of Lange, which is only a type of many others, less extensive perhaps in their range, but even more minute and critical in their execution, we feel that it is not easy to estimate the advantages enjoyed by the multitudes of to-day, as compared with even the favored few, of one or two centuries ago. Then,

the Bible, without an added line to interpret it, seemed an inexpressible boon. Now that same Bible, with all the varied lights which the most various learning has cast upon it, is scarcely less accessible. "Is not that" (and it is a question which springs to many lips in these days) "a very defective enterprise which employs itself in circulating only the dry, naked text of a volume, upon which the researches of scholarship, and the advances of science and discovery, have shed so much new light? Is it doing the best that we can do for men, to give them the Bible without note or comment?"

To all such objections, must it not be owned that the Bible itself is the best answer? Does it not, alike by its inherent character and its past history, vindicate the wisdom of just such a circulation of it, unaccompanied and unencumbered by any human criticism or interpretation, as it is the province of this Society to accomplish?

1. I say, by its inherent character. For what is it, but its own best interpreter? "Non nisi ex scripturâ scripturam potes interpretari," is a canon whose enduring authority cannot be shaken. If we would best interpret Scripture, it must be by means of Scripture. And as if to set us upon that work, how close together, in the elder and later Testament, do we find the type and the substance, the symbol pointing forward to the spiritual reality, and the history shining back on the dimmer pages of prophecy! And when we come, at length, into the presence, and feel the magnetism of the Life of lives, and there look on One who was Himself the world's Light, how the shadows flee away from all that went before Him, until Old Testament history becomes a straight and clear perspective, all along which, watching with waiting, reverent eyes, we see advancing the deepening footprints of a coming Christ!

The unlettered student of God's Word may know very little about its grammar, its chronology, its antiquity, its geography; but there is a better key to its meaning than any which these can furnish, in the Spirit which inspired that Word, and which alike from out its open pages and in the heart of every reverent student waits to make it plain. To leave that out of account is, therefore, surely, a very weak mistake. No advance in critical or exegetical attainments can excuse our forgetting the fact of

which Lord Bacon reminds us, when he says, "I do much condemn that interpretation of the Scripture, which is only after the manner as men interpret a profane book;" the fact, namely, that the Bible is not a Literature, but a Revelation.

2. But not only is the inherent character of the Bible a vindication of the work of this Society,—that work finds its further vindication in the Bible's past history. Who will ever fully know what a power it has been in human hearts, not only as a disclosure of Christ and his salvation, but also as an inspired record of human experience! What key of joy or woe, of shame or triumph, of hope or dread and grief, is not touched in some one of those incomparable portraitures of the elder or later Testaments? Such stories as that of Joseph and his brethren, of Saul and David, of Elijah, of Daniel, of Naaman, of Gehazi, of Nicodemus, of Peter, of Judas, of Thomas; how do they open the human heart to itself, and warn and teach us as can nothing else. And to the convincing power of that teaching, every new day that dawns brings fresher and fuller testimony. Whether on some western frontier or in some eastern jungle, or here right about us, in some home of sorrow and penury in our midst, there are not wanting many witnesses to tell how this Book has come to them, how it has spoken to their hearts, and how, alike as a record of Christ's work and words, and also of other men's experience amid life's "heady currents," it has touched and quickened and enriched them!

Pausing at the door of a peasant's cottage in Southern Italy, a friend of mine, (as he told me, not long ago,) craved of its inmates some slight refreshment. After having had set before him the best that the house afforded, the visitor said, as he rose to go, pained by the many signs of extreme want which greeted his eyes, and seeking some excuse for a more than usually liberal compensation for his refreshment, "I fear you must be very poor." "Nay," was the answer of the mother of the household, (who had recognized him as an American,) as she turned and drew from its hiding place a copy of the Bible, issued in the Italian tongue, by our American Bible Society, and concealed between the matrasses of the bed, for fear of the scrutiny of the priests, "Nay, signor, not poor while we have this treasure!"

Do such witnesses to the work which gathers us to-day, stand single and alone? How well we know that all the past of this Society, in its efforts to give to men the Bible, is compassed about with a great cloud of companion testimonies!

And shall such a work have only our timid and doubting sympathy? God forbid! What it rather wants, is a more generous and discriminating enthusiasm, eager to seize upon every helping instrument, and to advance with swifter feet to every open door, that so—

"Armed with His Word, a dauntless host,
Bold to attack the rule of ancient wrong,
His people shall the Earth for Christ reclaim,
To be His Kingdom and to know His Name!"

# ADDRESS OF REV. ANDREW P. PEABODY, D. D.

# MR. PRESIDENT:

My friend has spoken to you of the inexpediency of circulating more than the Bible, by agencies like those by which the Bible is now circulated; I would speak of the inexpediency of circulating less. I have been moved a good deal by hearing objections made in some quarters to the circulation of the entire Bible by our American missionaries. It has been said that very great evils are introduced by the too free and liberal sowing of the Word of God in benighted regions. I want to maintain that the entire Scriptures, in every language in which they can be circulated, is a work which we should put into the hands of every human being. It is said, to be sure, that there are large portions of the Old Testament and some portions of the New, which those into whose hands our charity may put the holy book cannot understand; and I rejoice that it is so. I rejoice that we have a record of revelation that demands study, and a life-long study. It is one of the marks of the Divine inspiration which fills this book, that its study demands, and crowns, and exceeds a life-time. If I had my life to live over again, I would be willing to devote the solid portion of my days to the study of St. Paul's Epistles. I should feel that in these alone there was work enough and joy enough for a life-long scholarship.

With reference to the less easily understood portions of the Scriptures, should it not be our aim to place before the man or woman who becomes sincerely interested in the Divine Word, objects of sacred curiosity, a field for research, that wherein one may grow day by day and year by year? And let it not be forgotten, that as the sweetest pastures are found among the rocks, so among those crags and cliffs in which is the hiding of the Divine wisdom, among the crudest and least intelligible portions of the Divine Word, are found scattered those sweet and precious sentences on which the devout feed, and which have been the greatest of boons to generation after generation of the saints. One of the surest tokens to my mind of the Divine inspiration of this book is the fact, that strewn all over it are these passages of concentrated, condensed power, in which the sacred writers put into half a dozen words what would be weakly expressed in half a dozen pages or chapters. How many of these single sayings, of these brief sentences, are there, which are of inestimable worth! How many are there on which men have been sustained in times of intense trial, in severe sorrow, in wasting illness, in approaching dissolution! I love to think of the experience of a good man, who died many years ago-whose features live still in my memory—who was severely ill for many weeks, then partially convalescent, then sank to rise no more. During his convalescence, he said, "I for several weeks was so feeble 'that I could not think of anything; I could not command my own mind; I had to resign, one after another, every exercise of my mental faculties, until at last I could only say over to myself, 'Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners;' and on that I lived, when I could think of nothing else." How many of these precious thoughts are there in the Divine Word! And shall we deprive the poor man, the converted Pagan, of one of them? Shall we deprive him of the comfort and satisfaction of seeking them out for himself, and lighting, by the instinct of his own soul, of his own peculiar affinities, upon those which will be most precious to him individually?

The Old Testament receives, in our time, I apprehend, less attention than it did in former generations,—is made less availing for counsel, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness. But it is no less availing; and it seems to me that we

only in our own minds attain a more just sense of the infinite magnitude and worth of the Christian salvation, and enable those who are the objects of our religious charity to attain a profounder sense of Christ and His Gospel, in all their blessedness, when we accustom ourselves, and teach them, to trace back the Gospel to its dawn; to look upon it as God's dispensation of mercy, from the very beginning of man's degradation and sin; to behold the light gradually breaking, growing brighter and brighter from age to age, until the Sun of Righteousness, waited for, prepared for, longed for, by the antecedent ages, at length rises over the world, with healing in his beams.

As for the Old Testament, I more and more feel the divinity of that marvelous compilation of books; and with every fresh assault of skepticism, the sense of its divinity grows upon me. I know that there are difficulties connected with it; and it would be strange if there were none. There are undoubtedly fitnesses which we have lost the means of tracing; adaptations to an earlier culture which we cannot understand; lacunæ which we are not able to supply. But there are positive arguments which cannot be gainsaid. There are affirmatives which do not admit of a negative. Take the one thought of the sublime theology with which the Old Testament opens: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." This exclusive Monotheism is the sole theology of these books, from Moses to Malachi. Through the whole series, patriarchs, prophets, psalmists, expound the truth with a sublimity and a tenderness that cannot be surpassed or equalled; so that the profoundest adoration may find expression in the words of these books, and the warmest love equally,—so that we feel that there was no inadequacy, but only perfect fitness, when the Saviour himself, on the eve of his crucifixion, joined in singing the Paschal psalms.

Whence came this theology? The Jews were not a people among whom it could have sprung up. They were never, humanly speaking, a very enlightened people. The Word of God was their light, but they were out of the line of all high culture; they had only rude and barbaric art; they never attained a very commanding place among the nations. Why did not this light spring up, if it was spontaneous, among the advanced and cultivated nations? There was Egypt, her art even now fresh

as when her works were first wrought; her lost arts the admiration and the envy of our enlightened century; her soil the Mecca for ages of the learned and curious from all other lands; and yet her worship was given to the most revolting, nauseous objects,—a worship too vile for record. There was Greece, foremost in all human culture; to this day, the world's mistress in art and poetry;—her Pantheon a very Pandemonium; her gods depraved far beyond the measure of human depravity; her philosophers, unable to receive that foul Polytheism, some of them lapsing into Atheism,—others rising, as they thought, into Pantheism, the greatest of them almost reaching a pure Monotheism, and yet not quite able to detach the idea of the Creator from the things created. But here is this simple Monotheism, recognized in the oldest book extant; and in the texts of that book which lay in the memory of every Hebrew child, and in the least canticle that was sung in the Hebrew worship, there was immeasurably more of religious wisdom than all Egypt and all Greece possessed; and Plato would have rejoiced to have sat at the feet of the humblest Jewish child. Now, whence came this? When I consider the crossing of cause and effect, humanly speaking, when I see light where I should look for darkness, and darkness where light would have been expected, I can refer it only to the Divine inspiration. When I read the twentythird Psalm, and remember who David was, consider the barbarous manners of his court and the savage condition of his times, and call to mind the particulars of his history, I feel that I am in the presence of a miracle, as truly as if I had stood by the sepulchre in Bethany when the Lord called Lazarus from the grave. I know that that old savage King was no more capable, without Divine inspiration, of writing the twenty-third Psalm, than Lazarus was of rising by his own might from his four days' death-slumber.

The morality of the Old Testament strikes me very similarly as unaccountable on any other hypothesis. There is the Decalogue,—a perfect summary of duty, God-ward, man-ward, self-ward,—a compend, to be sure, evidently designed to be kept in the memory, and therefore not going into details; but a compend to which you can add nothing, and certainly from which you can take nothing, and which our Saviour himself repeatedly

confirmed as an adequate synopsis of the Divine law. Shall I believe that a horde of fugitive slaves, just escaped from Egyptian bondage, and who about that same time were dancing round a golden calf in mad and senseless worship made that compend,—that the Decalogue came from them? or shall I believe what the record says, that God spake all these words? I have no alternative. To be sure, the record says that God spake these words in connection with a visible manifestation of power and glory such as will not be witnessed again until the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll; but little as I can take into my imagination that stupendous scene, I can immeasurably more easily take it into my belief than I can separate the Divine inspiration, the very voice of God, from the Decalogue.

And did it never occur to you that a similar argument applies to the humane precepts in the Pentateuch? Moses was a stern, irascible, austere, vindictive man; and yet, through Moses, and, as Moses says, from God, came the most beautiful precepts of humanity ever written. Such precepts were never embodied in the Jewish character,—the Hebrews never originated them; but they are precisely such precepts as we can conceive to have fallen from the Saviour's lips, and as being embodied in the lives of those whose hearts are in closest sympathy with the Saviour's heart. "If thy brother be waxen poor, and fallen in decay with thee, then thou shalt relieve him; yea, though he be a stranger or a sojourner; that he may live with thee. Take thou no usury of him, or increase." "If thou at all take thy neighbor's raiment to pledge, thou shalt deliver it unto him by that the sun goeth down." "Thou shalt not oppress an hired servant that is poor and needy, whether he be of thy brethren or of thy strangers that are in thy land within thy gates. At his day, thou shalt give him his hire, neither shall the sun go down upon it; for he is poor, and setteth his heart upon it, lest he cry against thee unto the Lord, and it be sin unto thee." "If a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, ye shall not vex him. But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye know the heart of a stranger, seeing ye were strangers in the land of Egypt."

I might go on and enumerate many of these precepts, which I know never came from the heart of Moses or of the Hebrew people,—which show their Divine origin, tell us whence they came, and bid us hold precious for ourselves, and make precious to all the kindreds of the earth, to every human being whom our charity can reach, the Book in which they are found. Yes, let us go with the whole Book, and sow beside all waters, and believe that, thus sowing, there will be a rich and blessed harvest.

I do believe that on this charity of ours depends every other Christian charity; and at the same time, I feel that this invites the co-operation of every other form of Christian charity. Do you say, that the darker portions of the Bible need that some one should explain, should teach? Granted. Send your missionaries. And if sending the Bible makes you feel the more need of sending missionaries with it, the more the better. Send the Bible, and send faithful men, who shall go in the spirit and power of the Bible, to interpret, enforce and apply its teachings.

The Report of the Trustees was then accepted, and the public services were closed by a doxology, and the benediction by Rev. Dr. Peabody.

Thanks were voted to the speakers for their Addresses, and a copy of the same requested for publication, when the Society adjourned.

# CONSTITUTION.

# CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

# THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

# ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

SEC. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Drown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.

- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.—Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year Eighteen Hundred and Sixty-five. An Act in addition to an Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- SEC. 1. The Corporation heretofore established by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts, shall hereafter be known by the name of the Massachusetts Bible Society, and by that name shall have, hold and enjoy all its rights and privileges and be subject to all its liabilities and obligations to the same extent as if its name had not been changed.
- SEC. 2. The said Society may publish, procure, purchase, circulate and distribute Bibles and Testaments in any other than the English language, in the same manner and to the same extent as they are now authorized by law to distribute Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, any thing in the Act incorporating the said Society to the contrary notwithstanding.—Approved by the Governor, February 27, 1865.

# BY-LAWS.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

## ARTICLE I.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

## ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

## ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

#### ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

## ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, fourteen Vice Presidents, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice Presidents, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

#### ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice Presidents and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

#### ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

## ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

#### ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

#### ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

#### ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository.

#### ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

## ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

# PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository, annually, the value of one dollar in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

# MEMBERS FOR LIFE.

BY THE PAYMENT OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

Abbe, Rev. Frederick R., Abington. Abbe, Mrs. Frederick R. Abbott, Rav. Jacob J., Yarmouth, Me. Aborn, John G., South Reading. Adams, Elizabeth W., Derry, N. H. Adams, John Clark, Hopkinton. *Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. Adams, Nehemiah, D. D., Boston. Adams, Stephen, West Medway. Adkins, Miss Mary J., South Deer field. *Albree, John, Boston. *Albro, John A., D. D., Cambridge. Albro, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Albro, Miss Annie E. Alden, Almira & C., Fozboro'. Alden, Russell, Campello. Alden, Miss Sarah B., Rendolph. Alden, Miss Susan, Aldrich, Mrs. Mary B., Westboro'. Allen, Rev. Nathaniel G., Wrentham. Allen, Richard H., Braintres. Ames, James S., Haverhill. Andrews, Artemas F., Fitchburg. Andrews, C. L., Boston. Androws, Stephen, Glaucester. Andrews, W. T., Boston. Andrews, Thomas E., Holliston. 'Andrews, Walter H., Whitinsville. *Appleton, Samuel, Boston. *Appleton, William, " Archibald, Edward, Methuen. Armes, Miss Clara A., Campello. Atwood, Mrs. Abby, Chatham. Atwood, Mrs. Elizabeth M., Atwood, John W., North Bridgewater. Babcock, Mrs. Nancy, Boston. Babcock, Rev. William R., Jamaica Plain. Babson, Miss Maria R., Gloucester. Bachelor, Mrs. Mary A., Whitinsville. Bacon, Jacob, Aloucester. Bacon, Rev. James M., Essex. Bacon, Joseph N., Newton. Backus, Rev. Joseph W., Thomaston, Ct. Baker, Mrs. Eleanor J. W., Durchester. Baker, Francis, South Danvers. Baldwin, Miss Josephine L., Lynn.

Ball, Miss Elizabeth, Concord. Barber, Martin, Skerborn. Barber, Sally C., Barbour, Rev. William M., South Danvers. Barbour, Mrs. Eliza A. *Bardwell, Lieut. Charles S., Whately. Barker, Hiram, Brighton. Barnard, William F., Marlboro.' *Barnes, William, Barnes, Zilpah, Henniker, N. H. Barrett, Nathan H., Concord. Barrett, Miss Rebecca M. Bartlett, Mrs. Eleanor C., Plymouth. Bartlett, Thomas, Boston. Bassett, Henry, Newton. Bassett, Mrs. Lucretia C., Charlemont. Batchelder, John M., Holliston. Batchelor, Stephen F., Whitinsville. *Bayley, Robert, Newburyport. Beal, Alexander, Boston. Beal, Mrs. Louisn, Cokasset. Beals, Isaac N., Campello. *Beane, Rev. Samuel, Norton. Bearne, Miss Olive H., Centreville. Beebe, James M., Buston. Beebe, Mrs. James M. " *Beebe, Charles E. " Boebe, Frances L. " Beebe, Edward P. Becbe, Emily B. " " Beebe, Mary L. Beecher, Rov. William H., No. Brookfield. Belden, Mrs. Marianne P., Whately. Belknap, Miss Martha M., Framingham. Benson, Frederick A., Newton. Blanchard, Miss Frances C., Groton. Bliss, Rev. Charles R., South Reading. Bliss, Mrs. Charles R. Blodgett, Benjamin C., Newton. Blodgett, Simeon, South Deerfield. Blood, Cyrus W., Winchester. Blood, Lyman, Groton. Bodwell, Rev. Joseph C., Hartford, Conn. Bodwell, Mrs. Catharine, *Bond, George, Boston. Bowers, Luke K.

Bowers, Mrs. Cara H., Boston. Brackett, James, Quincy. Brackett, Lemuel, *Braman, Rev. Isaac, Georgetown. Brant, Aaron, South Reading. Breed, Rev. William J., Raynham. Brower, Cyrus, Dorchester. Brewer, Mrs. C. F., Boston. Brewer, John R. Brickett, Franklin, Haverhill. Briggs, Mise Catharine Clark, Wenkam. Briggs, Rev. William T., East Douglas. Briggs, Mrs. Abby L., *Bromfield, Elizabeth, Boston. Brooks, Peter C. Brooks, Peter C. Brown, Mrs. Harriet L. Brown, Joseph, Groton. Brown, Mrs. Mary O., Haverhill. Bucklin, Simon S., Brookline. Bulkley, Mrs. C. F., Plattsburgh, N. Y. Burge, Lorenzo, Boston. Burr, Charles C., Auburndale. Burrage, J. C., Boston. Burrill, Henry, Jr., East Abington. Bush, Henry J., Westfield. Bushby, Sophia W., South Danvers. Butler, Rev. Daniel, Boston. Butler, Mrs. Jane D. Cady, Rev. Daniel R., Arlington. Cady, Mrs. Harriet S. Caldwell, Rev. W E., Hyannis Capen, Mrs. Charles, Framingham. Capion, William C., Uzbridge. Carleton, George H., Haverhill. Carpenter, Rev. Carlos C., Brooklins. Carpenter, Catharine E., Fozboro'. Carpenter, Daniel, Carpenter, Edson, Carr, John C., West Newbury. Carrier, Rev. Augustus H., Auburndale. Carter, Edward, Andover. Cary, George C., N. Bridgewater. Cary, Mrs. Mary D., Fozboro'. Case, Mrs. Mary Olivo, Brooklyn, N. Y. Chamberlin, John, Whitinsville. Chandler, Miss Frances E., Andover. Chandler, H. H., Charlestonon. Chapin, Caleb T., Northboro'. Chapin, Josiah L., Lawrence. Chapman, George H., Winchester. Chase, Ann Maria, Haverkill. Chase, Charles W., Chase, David B., Whitinsville. Chase, George S., Haverkill. Chase, Hezekiah, Lynn. Chase, Robert, Haverhill.

Cheover_lra, Chelsea.

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Smith, Mm. Lucy Jese, "

Smith, Rev. Edward P., Popperall. Smith, Mrs. Battle J., Gloucester. Smith, Jonathan, Whitingoille. Smith, Matson M., D. D., Newerk, N. J. Smith, Mrs. Matson M. Smith, Norman, Greton. Smith, Mrs. Mary J. " Smith, Richard, South Desware. Smith, Mrs. Charlotte, *Smith, Samuel, Boston. Smith, Mrs. Sarah, Andover. Smith, Warren N., Whitinsville. Soow, Mrs. Caroline, Musters Corner. Snow, Mrs. Mark, Chatham. Boule, Heary M., South Abington. Southgate, Charles M., Spowiek. Southgate, Rev. Robert, Southgate, Miss Prenose S. Southgate, Mrs. Mary Prances, Southworth, Mrs. Caroline M., Medway. Spooner, W. B., Besten. Spring, Mrs. Adele C., Whitinguille. Stacy, Albert, Concord. Stebbine, Rev. Milan C., Springfold. Stavens, Norman C., Number. Stevens, Mrs. E. M. Stevens, Samuel, Glencoster. *Stoddard, Lowis T Brookline. Stone, Andrew L., D. D., San Francisco, Cal. Stone, Mrs. Matilda P. Stone, Martin A., Nesten Centre. Storre, Ennice C. Braintree. Storre, Richard S., D. D. " Stowell, Mrs. Abby Hubbard, Concord. Stowell, Cyrus A., South Describeld. Strong, Rev. J. C., St. Cherles, Minnes Strong, Mrs. J. C., Studiey, Austin, East Abington. Sugdon, Miss Mary, Breistres. Sumner, Mrs. H. H., Postere'. Swazey, Mrs. Frances A., Lysin. Swutt, Bamuel W Bonton. Swift, Miss Lottle H., Andrew. Switzer, Rev.Christopher J., Previntelaun. Taft, Gustaves E., Whitisaville. Tapley, Gilbert, Dansers. Tuppen, John, Sesten. Tarr, William J., Gloucester. Taylor, Mrs. Malanca, Windoctor. Toole, Rev. Albert K., Milton. Teele, Mrs. Cornella C. 4 Temple, Mark M., Reading. Tenney, Mrs. Mary P., Winchester. Terry, Roy James P., Stuth Waymouth. Thucket, Mrs. Anna B., Hyde Park. Thacher, Miss Calleta C., Stileberg', Thacher, John, Thucker, Mes. Sugan C., Attlebore'.

Thacher, William T., Hyde Park. Thacher, Susan B., Pertland, Ma. *Thatcher, Mary Ladlow, Middleloro'. Thayer, Amese, Braintres. Thayer, E. F. E. Thayer, Ira, Thayer, Mrs. Lille, " Thayer, Rev. J. Henry, Andendy. Thayer, Mrs. Martha C. " Thayer, Oliver, *Thuyer, Mrs. Jane, Besten, Thayer, Robert H., New York City. Theyer, Sarah H., Brainfree, Thompson, Mrs. Emily B., Concord. Thompson, Everett A., West Amesency. Thompson, Samuel A. Thompson, Mrs. Anna Eliza, " Thompson, George R., North Bridgewater. Thompson, Stophen, Winchester. Thurston, Rev. Richard B., Stamford, Ct. Tolman, Rev. Richard, Taukebury. Tolquen, Rov. Samuel H., Wilmington. Turrey, Miss Elizabeth L., South Woymouth. Torrey, James, North Waymouth. Trank, Charles H., Jr., Munchester. Track, Mrs. A. H. Track, Linnie S., Glouscoter. Track, Samuel, Sc. Descere. Trowbridge, Mrs. Asa, Brighton. Tucker, Rev. Elijah W., Lebenes, Ch. Tucker, Mrs. Hannah W., Derchester. Tucker, James, Millen. Tucker, Nathan, Tucker, Mrs. Nathau, " Tucker, John A., Dorchester. Tucker, William, Tucker, William W., Beston. Tofts, Charles, Andoper. Tuttle, Miss Sarab, Wagiand. Tuttle, Thomas S., Littleten. Twichell, John M., Fitchburg. Tyler, Jarome W., Besten. "Underhill, Rov. John W., N. Amberet. Upton, Mossa T., Salam. Vose, Miss Prescille, Antrim, N. H. Voce, William H , Fitchburg. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. Wales, Erastos, East Rendelph. Wales, Miss Mary Ann, Boston. Walker, Ellen A., East Abragion. Walker, Miss Frances A., Hansakill. Walker, Rev. George P., Waltifest. Walker, John S., East Medescy. Walker, Mrs. John 8. " Walker, Moses, Bauerhill. Walker, Nathaniel, " Walker, Robert G., Beston. Walker, William M., East Abington.

"Walley, Samuel H., Besten. Walley, Samuel H. Ward, Artemes, Ward, Rev. James W., Lakeville. Ward, Mrs. Caroline L. Ward, Balom T., Winchesten. Warner, John, Newton. Warner, William, South Deergleid. Warran, Goorge W., Boston. Warren, Mrs. Diautha A., Lynn. Warren, Nes. Marie, Grafton. "Warren, Nebemiah, Row. Warren, Prancis W. " Warren, Jonas, Warren, Louisda, Warren, William A., Winehester. Watkins, Miss Abby A., Glouzaster. Weeks, Mrs. L. Caroline, Milliagton. Welch, John, Besten. Wold, James, Wells, Mrs. Martha D., Northbore'. Wollman, Roy. Joshus W., Newton. Wondoll, Mrs Catharino, Boston, Weatworth, Albert, Haverhill. Wentworth, Lawis, Bridgewater. Wheeler, Abijah R., East Medway, Whitoomb, Lawis, East Randelph. *Whiteomb, Reuben, Harverd. *Whitcomb, Rouben, Jr. Whiteomb, Mrs. Abby F *Whitcomb, Men. Louisa D. 44 Whiteomb, Miss Mery M. White, Auron I., Medicay. White, Cornelius, South Randolph. *White, James, Boston. White, Josiah, Petersham. White, Mrs. Mary C., Phillipston, White, Newton, East Randolph. White, Phinese A., Whitmswille. Whiten, Charles P. Whitip, Charles E. Whitie, Mrs. Catharine H. ♥ Whitln, Edward, Whitin, James F. Whitie, Mrs. Patience H. Whitin, Paul, Whiten, Mrs. Sarah J. Whitin, Mrs. Scrab R. Whiting, Lumusl, Groton, Whitman, Charles, Lowell. Whitmurch, Mary, South Stington. Whitney, Charles H., Friehburg. Whitney, Dorn S., South Groton. Whitney, Frederick, Westmington. Whitney, Heleu J., Stew. Whitney, Issae S., Glouceste Whitney, Israel, Beston. Whitney, Mrs. Permella V., Petersham. Whitney, Richard D., Springfield. Whitney, Mrs. Susanna, Rutland. *Wiggles worth, Thomas, Besten. Wilbur, Joseph, Taunton. Wild, Daniel, Boston. Wilder, Hattie W., Stow. Willcox, Rev. William H., Reading. Williams, Rev. Edward F., Whitinsville. Williams, Miss Mary D., Greenfield. Williams, S. H., Fozboro'. Williams, Thomas S., Auburndale. Wilson, Rev. Thomas, Stoughton. Winslow, Pelham, East Abington. Winthrop, Robert C., Boston. *Winthrop, Thomas L. " Withington, Otis, Brookline. Wolcott, Mrs. Elizabeth, South Danvers. Wolcott, William,

Woodbury, Simon J., Sutton. Wood, Mrs. Abijah, Westboro'. Wood, Elizabeth C., Fezbere'. Wood, Joseph W., Whitinsville. Wood, Mrs. E. S. Wood, Mrs. Samuel P., Chelmeford. Wood, Mrs. Susan, Greton. Wood, Theodore S., Westminster. Woods, Miss Abbie Wheeler, Malden. Woods, Frank Austin, New Braintres. Woods, Joseph Wheeler, Besten. Woods, Samuel H. Woodward, Ebenezer, Newton. Woodward, Miss Emily, Newton U. Falls. *Worthington, William, Beston. Wyman, Charles, Lancaster. Wyman, Rufus, Rozbury. Wyman, William G., Fitchburg.

### FORM OF A BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY.

I give, devise and bequeath, to the MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY, incorporated in the year Eighteen hundred and ten, the sum of to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of the Society.

LETTERS relating to Agencies, or to the general interests and policy of the Society, should be directed to Rev. Daniel Butler, Recording Secretary, 15 Cornhill, Boston.

Remittances for Books, donations from churches and individuals, and orders for Books, should be directed to S. T. FARWELL, Agent, 15 Cornhill, Boston.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

## Receipts from April 1, 1866, to April 1, 1867.

### BARNSTABLE COUNTY.

Centreville, Congregational Church and	Society,	•	•	•	<b>\$</b> 24	00
Chatham, Congregational Church and S	ociety,	•	•	•	. 12	25
Falmouth, First Congregational Church	and Soci	et <b>y</b> ,	•	•	37	00
Sandwich, Congregational Church and S	Bociety,	•	•	•	18	00
					\$ 91	25
BRISTOL CO	UNTY.					
Dighton, Congregational Church and So	ciety, (1	L. X.)	•	•	<b>2</b> 26	83
Freetown, A friend,	•••		•	•	•	00
Mansfield, Methodist Episcopal Church,	(A. B. S.	)	•	•		00
Norton, Congregational Church and Soc	•	/	L. B.	8.)		02
Raynham, First Congregational Church	•	•	•	•		00
					\$ 109	85
ESSEX COU	NTY.					
Andover, Free Church, (2 L. M.)	•	•	•	•	\$40	00
" Chapel Congregation, .		•	•	•	97	05
Ballardvale, Congregational Church and	Society,	•	•	•	5	00
Beverly, Washington Street Church, (A.	B. S.)	•	•	•	15	35
Danvers, Miss Flint, (1 L. M.)	•	•	•	•	20	00
Essex, First Church and Society, .	• •	•	•	•	17	94
Georgetown, First Congregational Churc	h and So	ciety,	•	•	11	00
Gloucester, Evan. Congregational Church	h and S	ociety	, (4	L. M	) 85	<b>50</b>
Groveland, Congregational Church and	Society,	•	•	•	12	00
Haverhill, Centre Church, (3 L. M.)	•	•	•	•	66	00
" North Church, (2 L. M.)		•	•	•	110	88
Ipswich, South Church, (1 L. M.) .		•	•	•	20	00
" First Church, (1 L. M.) .		•	•	•	20	00
Lawrence, Central Church,	•	•	•	•	25	25
" Lawrence Street Church,		•		•	114	60

Manchester, Society of Rev. Francis V. Tenney, (1 L. M.) .	27	94
Marblehead, First Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M., A. B. S.)	31	00
Methuen, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	96	01
North Andover, Trini. Congregational Church and Society, .	31	21
Newburyport, First Presbyterian Church,	47	40
"Belleville Congregational Church and Society,	68	49
" North Congregational Church and Society, .	47	77
Rockport, First Congregational Church and Society,	25	00
Salem, South Church,	80	00
South Danvers, Congregational Church and Society, (6 L. M.)	136	66
Mrs. Charlotte F. Pope, (1 L. M.)	20	00
Topsfield, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	30	00
Wenham, Congregational Church and Society,	22	00
	\$1,324	05
FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.		
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.		
Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	<b>\$</b> 30	35
Bernardston, Trinitarian Society,	1	00
Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,	20	79
Charlemont, Congregational Church and Society,	11	45
Mr. Simeon Crittenden, (5 L. M.)	100	00
Conway, Congregational Church and Society,	139	25
Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society,	50	00
Greenfield, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	20	46
" Second Congregational Church and Society,	57	74
Montague, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	50	20
Orange, Congregational Church and Society,	38	00
Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, Ladies,	)	
\$22.23; Gent. \$21.95;	44	18
" Falls, Congregational Church and Society,	50	15
Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society,	40	65
" Legacy of Marvin Graves,	25	00
Whately, Congregational Church and Society,	10	00
	689	22
Deduct amount paid for printing County Report		00
	<b>\$</b> 673	23
HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.		
Mr. Roderick Burt, Springfield, Tr.		•
Donations received of the Treasurer,	\$ 959	19
Tolland, Congregational Church and Society,	•	45
•	<del></del>	
For Bibles,	<b>\$ 96</b> 9	64
For Bibles,		

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTI.		
Huntington, Second Congregational Church and Society,	. \$24	6 <b>5</b>
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.		
Acton, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,	. \$2	00
Ashland, Congregational Church and Society,	. 39	15
Auburndale, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	. 37	00
Brighton, Evangelical Church and Society,		58
Cambridge, East, Methodist Episcopal Church,		00
Cambridge, Harvard Street Methodist Episcopal Church		
(1 L. M.)		00
" Shepard Congregational Society,		54
Cambridgeport, Mary K. Jones, (in part for L. M.)		00
Charlestown Mr. Wrs. Diones		00
Winthrop Church and Society,	153	
Concord, Union Bible Society,	. 140	
Dunstable, Congregational Church and Society,		50
Groton, Union Church and Society, (2 L. M.)		00
Holliston, Congregational Church and Society,		62
Hopkinton, Methodist Episcopal Church, (1 L. M., A. B. S.)		00
" Congregational Church and Society,		75
Littleton, Congregational Church and Society,		00
Lowell, Appleton Street Church and Society,		30
MARKET MARKET AND	150	
Malden, Congregational Church and Society,		10
"Trinitarian Congregational Sabbath School,		00
Malman ( A Priend !		00
	101	
West, Congregational Church and Society,		23
D		00
		00
Sherborn, Ladies' Benevolent Society, (1 L. M.)		99
-		
Waltham, Trinitarian Congregational Church,	22	47
Wayland, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society, .		
West Cambridge, Ortho. Congregational Church and Society,		
Weston, Mrs. Mary Ann H. Bigelow, (1 L. M., A. B. S.)	30	
Woburn, First Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)	60	
	\$1,570	84
NORFOLK COUNTY.	• • •	- <b>-</b>
Brookline, Howard Church,	96	95
Cohasset, Second Congregational Church and Society,	27	25
Dorchester, Village Church, (1 L. M.)	29	27
" Second Church, (1 L. M.)	398	73
" Friends, \$15.00; "a friend," \$10.00; do. \$5.00;		
do. \$5.00; J. F. P. \$10.00,	45	00

Towhors' Commencational Church and Society (2 t x)	66	ΛΛ
Foxboro', Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	00	UU
Franklin, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M., A.	78	20
B. S.)	75	
Mrs. H. C. Phipps, (1 L. M., A. B. S.)	30	
Medway, First Church and Society,	38	63
"Village Church, (2 L. M., \$45.00, widow's mite,		
25c.)	45	
" West, Congregational Church and Society,	35	25
Roxbury, Eliot Church,	151	42
" Vine Street Church, Mrs. Fifield,	3	00
" Rufus Wyman \$30.00; Mr. Charles Bradford		
<b>\$2.00,</b>	32	00
Sharon, Congregational Church and Society, (balance for 2 L.		
ж.)	37	61
Wrentham, Cynthia Hawes, (A. B. S.)	. 5	00
" North, by Mr. Fales,		00
Weymouth, Union Congregational Church and Society, .	20	
" South, Society of Rev. Mr. Terry,	17	
bould, bodiety of leev. Ed., reity,		
	\$1,161	70
	<b>V</b> = <b>/</b> • · ·	•
PLYMOUTH COUNTY.		
Abington, East Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)	60	00
	•	
		00
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)	20	00
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)	20 24	00 00
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)	20 24 36	00 00 80
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)	20 24 36 51	00 00 80 67
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)	20 24 36 51 58	00 00 80 67 09
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)	20 24 36 51 58 15	00 00 80 67 09
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,	20 24 36 51 58 15 25	00 00 80 67 09 00 78
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33 40
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33 40
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33 40
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33 40
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  "Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  "Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society,  SUFFOLK COUNTY.	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3 5	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33 40 00
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society,  SUFFOLK COUNTY.  Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3 5	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33 40 00 81
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society,  SUFFOLK COUNTY.  Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,  "" Rev. Dr. Alden, Broadway,	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3 5 \$429	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33 40 00
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Sectland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society,  SUFFOLK COUNTY.  Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,  Rev. Dr. Alden, Broadway,  Rev. Messrs. Blagden and Manning, Old	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3 5 \$429	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33 40 00 81
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  "Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  "Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society,  SUFFOLK COUNTY.  Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,  "Rev. Dr. Alden, Broadway,  "Rev. Messrs. Blagden and Manning, Old South,	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3 5 \$429	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33 40 00 81
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  "Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  "Scotland, Congregational Church and Society, .  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society,  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society,  ""Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,  ""Rev. Dr. Adden, Broadway,  ""Rev. Messrs. Blagden and Manning, Old  South,  ""Rev. Dr. Robbins, Second Church, .	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3 5 \$429	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33 40 00 81
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society,  SUFFOLK COUNTY.  Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,  ""Rev. Dr. Alden, Broadway,  ""Rev. Messrs. Blagden and Manning, Old  South,  ""Rev. Dr. Robbins, Second Church,  ""Central Church,	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3 5 **429	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33 40 00 81 20 80 01 00 18
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society,  SUFFOLK COUNTY.  Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,  Rev. Messrs. Blagden and Manning, Old  South,  Rev. Messrs. Blagden and Manning, Old  South,  Central Church,  Central Church,  Park Street Church and Society,	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3 5 **429	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33 40 00 81 20 80 01 00 18 22
Bridgewater, Philip E. Hall, (1 L. M.)  "Central Square Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  "Scotland, Congregational Church and Society,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.)  Hingham, First Church,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M., bal.)  Middleboro', First Church,  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Church, (2 L. M.)  Plymouth, Third Congregational Church and Society,  Plympton, Congregational Church and Society,  Wareham, Congregational Church and Society,  SUFFOLK COUNTY.  Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street,  "Rev. Dr. Alden, Broadway,  "Rev. Messrs. Blagden and Manning, Old  South,  "Rev. Dr. Robbins, Second Church,  "Central Church,  "Central Church,  "Park Street Church and Society,	20 24 36 51 58 15 25 97 32 3 5 **429	00 00 80 67 09 00 78 74 33 40 00 81 20 80 01 00 18 22 00

Boston, Mrs. Martha V. Hooker, (l L. M.)	20	00
" Mrs. Nancy Atkins,		3 00
" Samuel Dorr, (1 L. M.)		00
" A Friend, \$1.28; do. \$1.00,	•	2 28
	<b>\$</b> 70:	3 69
"Annual Subscriptions,	320	00
•	\$1,02	3 69
WORCESTER COUNTY.	,	
	9.1	. 40
Ashburnham, First Congregational Church and Society, Fitchburg, Calvinistic Congregational Church and Society,	Zi	5 48
(6 L. M., A. B. S.)	188	85
Gardner. First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	38	5 60
Harvard, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, (1		
L. M.)	20	25
Lancaster, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M)	28	5 54
Leomister, Evangelical Charitable Society,	43	3 00
New Braintree, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	2	5 15
Northboro', Congregational Church and Society,	18	8 69
Phillipston, Congregational Church and Society,	11	12
Shirley Village, Congregational Church and Society,	10	15
Spencer, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	43	3 25
Uxbridge, First Evangelical Church and Society, (3 L. M) .	7:	2 00
Webster, Congregational Church and Society,	25	2 42
Westboro', Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,		
(2 L. M.)	5	0 71
Whitinsville, Congregational Church and Society, (13 L. M.)	490	0 55
Winchendon, North Church,	{	3 00
Worcester, Central Church and Society,	4	1 82
•	\$1,13	2 48
MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS.		
American Seamen's Friend Society, by Rev. S. W. Hanks, .		ß 35
Derry, N. II., Miss Abby Choate, (L. M., A. B. s. bal.)		0 00
East Woodstock, Ct., Congregational Church and Society		6 53
Exeter, N. H., "A Friend of the Bible Cause,"		0 00
Peacham, Vt., "A Friend" to constitute (1 L. M., A. B. S.).		5 00
Thetford, Vt., Miss Lucy A. Child, (bal. for L. M.)		5 00
A lady, by Mr. Charles Vaughn,		0 00
A Friend,		0 00
A friend on her death-bed,		2 25
Donor unknown,	. 4	7 08
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# COLLECTIONS.

By the Rev. E. F. SLAPTI	ER,	Agent	of	the 1	Amer	ican	Bible	Soc	iety.	
Christ Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	33	67
Emmanuel Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	1,011	00
St. Paul's Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	961	00
St. Paul's Church, Brookline		•	•	•		•	•	•	440	70
•	-	Bibles				,	•	•		• -
St. John's Church, Framingh			•	•		•	•	•	27	02
Grace Church, Medford,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	35	_
Church of the Redeemer, Ho	llist	on.	•	•		•	•	•		00
Church of the Messiah, Bost		•				•	•		_	10
Trinity Church, Boston,		•	•	•		•	•	•	699	-
St. Luke's Church, Chelsea,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	12	
Trinity Church, Haverhill,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	14	
St. Michael's Church, Marbl	ehe	ad.	•	•		•	•		74	
St. Paul's Church, Newbury		-	•	•		•	•	•	25	
Grace Church, Lawrence,		•	•	•		•	•	•	29	
St. John's Church, Lawrence	е.	•	•			•	•	•	14	
St. Andrew's Church, Hanov	•	•	•	•		•	•		68	
St. Mary's Church, Newton	•	ver Fa	lls.	•		•	•	•	41	·
St. James' Church, Roxbury		•	•	•		•			138	
Christ Church, Fitchburg,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	25	
St. Paul's Church, Dedham,	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		90
St. Peter's Church, Salem,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		00
St. Thomas' Church, Taunto	n,	•	•	•		•	•	•		00
Christ Church, Andover,	•	•	٠	•		•	•	•		63
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Bank dividends and interest	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	1,235	50
Returned for books granted,	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	13	88
Sales,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	. 2	21,355	81

# ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY

# THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

# MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY,

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING,

IN BOSTON,

MAY 25, 1868, BEING THEIR FIFTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON, 42 CONGRESS STREET.

1868.



Rec? 9 jui 1565.

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OF THE

# MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY, 1868-9.

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# ANNUAL REPORT.

Brought by the favor of God to the period of their annual reckoning, the Trustees of the Massachusetts Bible Society would present a brief statement of their labors during the past year, with a record of the offerings received from the friends of the Bible in aid of this work.

During the year, there have been issued from our Depository, forty-three thousand eight hundred and eighty-six volumes. Of this number, fifteen thousand and thirty-six were Bibles; seventeen thousand eight hundred and forty-nine Testaments; five thousand six hundred and twenty-nine Testaments with the Psalms, and the remainder five thousand three hundred and seventy-two were smaller portions of the Scriptures. Of the whole number, twelve hundred and ninety-six were in various foreign languages.

The gratuitous issues have amounted to twelve thousand nine hundred and sixty-six volumes, costing \$4,356.68. These have been bestowed upon Seamen, Sabbath Schools, City Missions, Freedmen, Public Institutions and Public Houses and destitute families in Massachusetts, while

grants, amounting in the aggregate to nearly two thousand volumes have been made to Maine, Vermont, New Jersey, Ohio, Michigan, Missouri, California, Washington Territory, Nova Scotia, Labrador, Hayti, and India.

The distribution of the Scriptures in Barnstable County, to which reference was made in our last Report, has been completed by our agent, the Rev. A. M. Osgood. He visited thirty-five hundred and thirty-six families, of whom one hundred and seventy-one were destitute of the Scriptures. Ninety-four families and forty-one individuals were supplied. Six hundred and fifty-five volumes were sold and given away.

Since completing his work in Barnstable County, our Agent has canvassed the cities of Lawrence and Salem. In the former city he called upon three thousand one hundred and thirty-four families, of whom five hundred and forty-one, mostly Romanists, were destitute of the Scriptures. Thirty-nine families and thirteen individuals were supplied. One hundred and ninety-one copies of the Scriptures were distributed.

In Salem, three thousand seven hundred and ninety-five families were visited, and four hundred and eighty-six were found destitute. Eighty-three families and twenty individuals were supplied. Two hundred and sixty-nine copies were sold and given away.

Early in the season, the Rev. Mr. Dwight was employed as a Bible colporter in this city. His

labors were mostly performed in those portions of the city where the population is largely foreign. In his two months of service he called upon two thousand one hundred and fifty families, of whom less than six hundred were Protestant. Of these last fourteen were found destitute of the Scriptures and supplied. It is his belief that more than one half of the Romish population are unfurnished with any portion of the Bible. To ten of these families he sold the Scriptures, and sixty-four received them as a gift.

The facts disclosed by the very efficient and acceptable labors of our Agent, led to a suspension of the work from an impression that what we seek to effect by it is substantially performed by the religious and benevolent organizations now acting in this field.

The Depository has been maintained as in former years, where the various editions of the Scriptures printed by the American Bible Society have been offered to all at cost, where those known to be poor have been supplied, and where the benevolent have obtained the books which they find occasion to dispense in the highways and hedges where they toil. These well known facts are stated, because we are thus furnished with the opportunity of reminding the friends of this charity that through their combined efforts the best book in the world is made the cheapest. That which is most essential is rendered the most easily accessible to all. The usefulness of these

labors then is not to be estimated by the comparatively few who receive the Scriptures as a gift, but by the far larger number who are induced by the facilities thus furnished to procure for themselves the Word of Life. Indeed, it may be fairly questioned whether the people of this Commonwealth taken as a whole give anything in charity to this cause, since the diminished cost of the Bibles which they purchase for their own use furnishes very nearly or quite a pecuniary equivalent for the contributions made by them directly to this object.

The income of the Society, including a balance at the beginning of the year of \$2,811.40, has been \$36,101.90. In donations, annual subscriptions and legacies, \$12,545.08; dividends and interest, \$1,198.20; return for books donated, \$290; sales of books, \$19,544.32. In addition to the amount received into our treasury, there has been sent directly to the American Bible Society from other portions of the State, the further sum of \$27,566.91, making the whole amount raised in Massachusetts, deducting the balance for last year, \$54,315.14.

The expenditures have been as follows:—for books, \$23,467.49; for General Agent, Distribtributing Agents, Depository Agent, and assistant, paper, printing, rent, fuel, and incidental expenses, \$6,433.53; to the American Bible Society, \$3,280.74; invested, \$871.92, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$2,048.22.

There has also been received from Mr. Thomas W. Durant, now residing in Canada, sundry Stocks, the par value of which is \$64,480. This very generous gift is not however available for the work of the Society, a large part of the income being pledged to the donor during his life.

The American Bible Society reports a year of great prosperity, \$723,106.68 having been received into its treasury, while its issues, domestic and foreign, have reached the large number of one million, one hundred and eighty-seven thousand, one hundred and ninety-four. Six hundred and twenty Auxiliaries have canvassed their fields during the year, having visited six hundred and five thousand families, and supplied with the Scriptures eighty-three thousand three hundred and eighty. Fifty-three laborers have been employed in foreign lands. The printing of the Arabic Bible, for which a special appropriation of five thousand dollars was made by this Society, is going forward with all practicable despatch. Three sets of plates for an octavo edition of the Bible have been made, one of these remains at the Bible House—another has been presented to the British and Foreign Bible Society, and the third has been sent to Beirut to be used in printing the Bible there. A thousand copies have been printed in New York from these plates. Plates have also been prepared for an octavo edition of the New Testament and Psalms, vowelled, and three thousand copies have been printed.

The work has been transferred to Beirut and will be urged forward till the long exiled Word of God shall again find a home in the land of its birth.

By reference to our last Annual Report, it will be seen that both our receipts and issues have fallen behind those of the year previous. The inability to procure all the books needed from the American Bible Society, explains the falling off in the last particular, while the diminution of receipts has occurred mainly in the item of legacies, the contributions nearly equalling those of the previous year.

We cannot for a moment believe, that the interest now felt in this work is about to decline. the contrary, we look for its great increase. men from whom we are proud to derive our origin were distinguished for nothing more than their love of the Word, and their zeal for its diffusion. When it was a crime to own it—when to give it away subjected them to imprisonment and exile and death, they fearlessly did both. They willingly became bound that the Word might be free. Joyfully they took the spoiling of their goods, if others might be enriched with the treasures of divine truth. It is to their zeal and self-denial we owe it, that patriarchs and prophets and apostles and the Lord of Life in their inspired utterances gladden and dignify our homes to-day. The fair fields where in peace we dwell, were gained for us by their cheerful sacrifices and their persistent toil. And their hope and purpose in this was to raise up those who should inherit their spirit and carry to its consummation the work they so nobly begun. If they could thus labor with means so narrow and in a field so environed with difficulties, shall we become indifferent to the diffusion of the Word, when in well nigh every living language God is speaking through it to an awaking world, when kings are its nursing fathers, and men of every nation are eagerly asking it at our hands. "With cheerful hope and strong desire" we look forward to the time surely coming, when the willing offerings of the people of our old Commonwealth shall correspond with their history, with their professed love of the Bible, with the benefits they have received from it, and with the ability which a bountiful God has given them to diffuse its blessings over the world.

# ANNUAL MEETING.

THE FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING of the MASSA-CHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY was held at the Rooms of the Society, No. 15 Cornhill, on Monday, May 25, 1868, at nine o'clock, A. M. In the absence of the President, who was detained by sickness, the chair was taken by the Rev. Dr. Copp, of Chelsea.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Mallalieu, of Chelsea.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer, Charles Henry Parker, Esq., presented his Annual Report, which was read and accepted.

The Fifty-ninth Annual Report of the Trustees was presented by the Recording Secretary, when it was

Voted, That the reading of the same be deferred till the public meeting in the afternoon.

The Officers of the Society were then elected for the ensuing year.

The Society then adjourned to attend the public services of the Fifty-ninth Anniversary at the Mount Vernon Church, at three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The chair was taken by the Rt. Rev. Bishop EASTBURN, who introduced the services with the following remarks:—

# INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY THE RT. REV. MANTON EASTBURN, D. D.

My Christian Friends:—I am sure you will all be disappointed at not meeting here this afternoon, as we have been accustomed to meet in years past, the highly respected President of this Society. He is, in God's providence, confined to his house by illness, and therefore we shall miss those words of wisdom and of piety, with which he always inaugurated these annual meetings. I have been requested to fill his place, and although I feel very inadequate to occupy the place of such a man, yet, at the same time, I always feel as if it was the greatest honor that any individual could have in this world, to be permitted to preside at such a meeting as this, or to have any connection, either by speaking or by aiding in any other way, with a Society established for the pure and blessed purpose of circulating God's Holy Word, without note or comment.

This age of ours, this nineteenth century, has been distinguished by the establishment of various institutions for the diffusion of Divine truth through the earth; but without disparaging other societies, and leaving them to fill their own place, as before, we must all surely say, that the Bible society, wherever it is, is the crowning society of all. It is a society for diffusing that precious Word, about which there can be no mistake; which has God for its author, and truth, without any admixture of error, for its contents. We are sure, therefore, that whatever we do for the circulation of God's Holy Word, we are walking safely; we are pointing every individual into whose hands these sacred Scriptures shall fall to that blessed book, which contains the way of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, which brings man to be at peace with God, through faith in Him, and at the hour of death and the day of judgment, prepares him to present a perfect plea, through the righteousness of the "Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."

May God be present at this meeting! May He infuse into the hearts of all those who have hitherto supported this glorious institution new zeal for the distribution of that volume which is the only support of the individual man in the hour of death, and the only sure defence of nations! And, my brethren, let me say, in conclusion, while we are helping in the support of this institution, let us be careful that we apply this same blessed book to our own hearts by faithful study, praying for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to bless its pages, and that we may so "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" these Holy Scriptures, which were given for our learning, that by patience and the comfort of the holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which He has given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Scriptures were read, and prayer was offered by Rev. E. E. Strong, of Waltham.

A hymn was sung, and the Report of the Trustees was read and accepted.

Prof. L. T. Townsend, of Boston, then addressed the assembly.

Mr. Townsend asked the attention of the Society to a few considerations respecting Hebrew and Jewish Prophets, and prophetic inspiration. The word 'Prophet,' in the original, he said. means a boiling over; and in the Hebrew never occurs in the active, but always in the passive voice. A prophet, then, in the biblical sense, is a messenger of God, filled with the Holy Ghost, and passive in his utterances.

The speaker then divided the Prophetic Periods into four; the period of the Patriarchs, the period of Moses, of Samuel, and of Christ.

The providential care in the preservation of the prophetic writings was then discussed.

The remarkable care exercised by the Jewish church until its dispersion, the care of the Roman Catholic church until its corruption, and the present watchfulness of Evangelical Christianity

over the Scriptures, bespeak for them what cannot be regarded in any other light than providential.

The characteristics of the Prophets were next spoken of. They were called to their work. They were protectors of the poor. They taught a pure and uniform religion. They were literary men of peculiar endowments. In some instances the very words they employed were given them. With these men. the spirit of prophecy ceased. Rome, through Pope and Priest, may assert to the contrary, it will avail nothing. She may listen with open ear until doomsday, but will never again hear prophetic word or syllable. "New Lights" may startle us with pretended disclosures from another world, it will avail nothing. During the past eighteen hundred years the world has not advanced one step in the actual revelation of supernatural truth. Despite all efforts nothing new can be discovered. All things remain as they were since Christ and his Apostles. lations may be better arranged, systematized, and harmonized, but nothing essential can be added to or taken from them. The book of revelation is closed.

In concluding his remarks, the speaker said that the world does well to hang upon the lips of the Old and New Testament prophets, as they speak to us words of mingled instruction, warning and encouragement. Since we find that on every page of their writings there is the same protest for truth, justice, and mercy; the same message of wrath for the oppressor, the cruel, and the impious; the same righteous care for the widow, the fatherless, and the stranger; and everywhere the elements of all true theology, which as a system "is so entire," says Taylor, "that after ages of painful cogitation on the part of the most profound and the most exact minds, whether philosophers or divines, whether ancient or modern, nothing that is profitable, nothing that is deep and affecting which has been educed and taught, or is at this moment extant and patent in books classical or in books recent, can surpass the glorious truths declared. Yes, the prophet, if we take him as the chief of his own order, is still, after two thousand years, our master in the school of the highest reason and truth."

The sublime mission, then, to which this Bible Society is called of God, is to circulate these divine utterances, and to give

to man the only words which God has spoken or will speak to the race. The constitution originally formed well nigh sixty years ago, has for its first article the following: "The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State, or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

Now we say the work herein contemplated was never more encouraging, and never was there presented a wider field of usefulness than at the present time. Though the world has hardly yet grasped the idea that it has the words of God in its possession, it is yearly awakening to this conviction. We dare predict that the time is coming when the interest in this book will be so great, and the language so authoritative, that the Greek and Hebrew Scriptures will be found in every educated household. Nay, is it too much to assert that the day is on the wing when the shelves of this Society will hold the Greek and Hebrew in common with the English text? Fear not, the feeble blade is to be followed by the ripe corn in the ear. We would applaud the work of this Society. The good it has done is inestimable. Its age demands our profound veneration. Its board of managers and its past success our fullest confidence. Still its task is but just commenced. Being linked in its destinies with the sacred Scriptures, it has partaken somehow of their nature. Its whitened locks bespeak, not a declining, but a vigorous manhood. We predict for it an ever-increasing usefulness, until the time arrives when the knowledge of God's Word shall flood the whole world with divine beauty and divine truth.

Another hymn was sung, and the meeting was further addressed by Rev. Wm. R. Huntington, of Worcester, and Rev. Alexander McKenzie, of Cambridge.

#### ADDRESS OF REV. WILLIAM R. HUNTINGTON.

#### Mr. President:

The difference between the meeting in Cornhill this morning, and the meeting we are holding now, is a significant one. That was a meeting to consider the condition and prospects of the Bible Society, this is a meeting to consider the larger interests of the Bible itself. As friends of the revealed Word of God we have something more to do in these days than to discuss the various methods of multiplying and circulating the printed text. Active brains in every part of Christendom are busy with a question that lies behind all this,—the question, Do we need any Bible at all? the question, Has not the world outgrown the old notion of a book religion?

There is no concealing the fact that we are in the thick of that decisive conflict for which the forces have been making ready ever since the Reformation. It is now more than thirty years ago that Arnold of Rugby made his famous comment upon Coleridge's Letters on Inspiration. "They are well fitted," he wrote, "to break ground in the approaches to that momentous question which involves in it so great a shock to existing notions, the greatest, probably, that has ever been given since the discovery of the falsehood of the doctrine of the Pope's infallibility. Yet it must come, and will end, in spite of the fears and clamors of the weak and bigoted, in the higher exalting and more sure establishing of Christian truth." prophecy has found an even more startling fulfillment than the prophet thought. Dr. Arnold foresaw merely the unsettling of the views popularly held in his time with regard to the verbal or mechanical inspiration of the Scriptures. We see plainly now, that the real question is not between this and that theory of inspiration, but between revelation and no revelation. Had that eminent Christian scholar known that it was indeed coming to this, he might have been no less hopeful of the final result, but he would, perhaps, have distributed his epithets differently.

However that may be, the shock he anticipated has come, and it behooves us that we meet it, not only valiantly, but with calmness, wisdom, and patience.

And one caution that we need to give each other over and

over again, in spite of its familiarity, is this, not to undervalue the resources of the enemy. Improvement in the arts of attack has not been confined to the military service. The weapons of contemporary unbelief are to those of the elder rationalism, what the needle-gun is to the cumbrous Queeu's arm of a century ago. Besides, the enemy has changed front. The Bible is not now assailed solely in the interest of free thought; it is assailed, also, in the name of what has begun to be called "free religion." It is not proposed now to demolish the Scriptures; that has been found too arduous, they utterly refuse to be volatilized in the . hottest crucible. A better way has been devised. The Scriptures are to be accepted as a legitimate outgrowth of the religious instinct in man, and then they are to be laid gently away on the same shelf with the Koran and the Vedas, a psychological curiosity. In a word, we are not now called to do battle with the coarse violence of old fashioned unbelief, but with a philosophy that claims to be pre-eminently spiritual, altogether too religious to be willing to be bound to the beggarly elements of a written revelation. This kind of assailant cannot be frowned down nor laughed down. Rhetoric will not silence him, neither will scorn. Reasoning is his chosen weapon, and with reasoning he must be met.

Now every one who watches carefully the methods by which the destructive criticism does its work, will notice that the real weight of the assault falls almost always upon one point. That point is not the inspiration, it is the unity of Scripture. Very little is said about inspiration, or rather it is admitted, in a general way, that the sacred writers were inspired, the suppressed major premise in the argument being always that genius and inspiration are identical. But inspiration being conceded, the next point is to show that the possession of this attribute need be no bar to all manner of inconsistencies, discrepancies, and flat contradictions. Everything is said that can be said to bring out into bold relief the differences in style and subject that characterize the various parts of Scripture, and nothing is said to help men see the golden thread of unity that runs in and out all through the fabric knitting it into one perfect whole.

The first and simplest dislocation is that of the two Testaments. Having thrown back the Old Testament into the lumber room

of obsolete beliefs, all inconvenient references to it that may be encountered in the New are easily set aside as the relics of a national superstition. The next step is to sever the Epistles from the Gospels, and to deny any organic connection between the two. This done, we are prepared to appreciate the inconsistencies between the Epistles themselves, and to smile at the incongruity of binding up in one volume four or five discordant theologies. The same process of dissection applied to the Gospels readily eliminates the best beloved of them as being the work of post-apostolic times, and we are assured that the Christ of the Passover discourses is quite another Christ than He of the Beatitudes.

It would be well if even here our advanced thinkers were willing to cry, halt! But no, one stone still blocks the path of progress. It is the miracles that are in the way. Let them go too. And what does it matter if, after we have robbed the Son of man of all those marvellous powers that made the poor and sick, the lame and blind, the hungry and the thirsty love Him, we strike at last at that of which, as has been lately said,* the miracles were but the verifying proof, His sinlessness. Thus from the initial step of denying the unity of Scripture, the movement is gradual but steady towards the utter dethronement of that thorn-crowned King, whose right to rule men have acknowledged because they have found in Him no fault at all.

Now instead of discussing the various kinds and degrees of inspiration, classifying it under some half-a-dozen different heads, as the divines of the last century were fond of doing, let us who are believers bend all our strength to making it plain that the Bible is one book, that it has one subject, and one Author. In a word, persuade men of the fact of a revelation by showing them the consistency of its various parts, and they will cease to be vexed by doubts as to the inspiration of the men through whom the revelation was conveyed.

But understand me. There is a stupid and senseless way of speaking of the Bible as one book, which almost justifies that scornful word that has of late crept into use, "bibliolatry." Well-meaning people sometimes speak of the Bible as if they

^{*} J. B. Mozley. Letter to Prof. Tyndall, "On Christ alone without sin."—Contemporary Review for April.

thought it had come down from heaven printed, bound, and translated. The great Diana of the Ephesians is said to have been a shapeless meteoric stone. The people worshipped it, not for any beauty of its own, still less for any supposed resemblance to the goddess, but simply because they knew that it had actually fallen from the sky. And so to worship the Bible in a blind way, as if our faith in its having come from God might be a substitute for faith in the God from whom it came, does seem little better than idolatry, since the essence of idolatry is the worship of the creature rather than the Creator. But truly to believe the Bible to be one book is not necessarily inconsistent with the fullest recognition of its wonderful diversity. out that diversity in the strongest light, and you will only make the unity that underlies it the more impressive by the contrast. Much of the preciousness of the Bible is due to its variety, but it is a variety which like that of Nature is subordinate to perfect harmony and oneness. The Scriptures were meant to be a revelation not only of God to man, but of man to man, and it was for this reason that they were spoken "at sundry times and in divers manners," in order that they might show us man in all his habitudes. And yet in spite of its diversities of period, ranging over so many thousand years, and in spite of its diversities of style, embracing, as they do, every known form of composition, the Bible is one book, because it had one Author and has one subject; its Author, the Creator, its subject, the Incarnation. Minds enslaved to the tread-mill philosophy of human history will doubtless find a difficulty in receiving this idea. But let a man once discern in history the working of the same law of movement that governs the development of a drama, let him acknowledge that the picture of the past ought not to be drawn upon Chinese principles, but with a just and true perspective, let him recognize in Jesus Christ the hero of the drama. the centre around which the picture's parts are grouped, and he will not need a better apology for his devotion to the Bible than simply this, "I know no other record of what God has done for men." Thousands who complain that the Bible is to them a sealed book, could have their difficulties solved if they would but bring them to that Interpreter who has "prevailed to open the book and to loose the seals thereof."

Manifestly it is out of my power to expand this thought adequately here and now. But what it all comes to is this: prove the unity of the Bible, and the inspiration of the Bible will prove itself. Let it appear that, as a whole, the Bible is the embodiment of one creative thought, and the minute criticisms that spend themselves upon insignificant points of detail, an error in a numeral, or the transposition of two dots, will cease to trouble any one.

What if it can be proved that the various contributors to the great work were unconscious of the full meaning of all they said and did? What if the prophets had no perfect picture in their minds of Him to whom they all bore witness? It would not be the only instance in the universe of unconscious co-operation in the working out of God's designs. You look at a bit of coral brought from beneath the sea. You wonder at the curious arrangement of its parts. You get from it the same impression of beauty of form that a tree's branches or a stag's antlers convey. But stop a moment to consider how this marvellous result Really there is a wide difference between has been attained. this and the branches and the antlers that it resembles. thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands of little insects lived and died there, each in its place, each unconscious of aught save the cool sea water moving in and out, and yet there was not one of them that did not serve a purpose. There was a law of unity that governed the lower law of individual life, and made each tiny polyp minister unconsciously to the final whole. It seems to me there is no argument for the unity of Scripture at all comparable with this, the architectural argument. First the Designer, then the countless underworkmen, executing with more or less of conscious co-operation the various parts. The illustration I have used makes the co-operation wholly unconscious. Better still would be an illustration in which the fellowship of labor should be partly conscious, partly unconscious. We have it in an old cathedral; call it York, or Winchester or Durham. In such a structure we discern precisely those two kinds of diversity that are found in Scripture, diversity of period and diversity of style. the building in detail, follow the verger into every side chapel, every retiring angle, every groined recess, and you will feel as if

variety and discrepancy were the very law of its being. The nave is in the style of the twelfth century perhaps, the transepts in the style of the thirteenth. One good bishop added this peculiar feature, another, his successor, added that. Here is a round, massive pillar that the Normans raised, and there a fluted one of later date. At each step the eye falls on something different, and the impression you receive is one of incongruity and inconsistency. But when you have done with your analytic examination of the edifice, go and take your stand at the western entrance, and forgetting all thought of detail, contemplate the whole beautiful idea. See it as it lies before you, one mighty cross of stone. Look through the long vista walled and arched like a forest path. Watch the sunlight streaming through the eastern window blazoned with the effigies of a hundred saints. And if at that moment the voice of some musical response comes to you from the far-off choir, you will feel the influence of a unity indescribable, and the building, from being the handiwork of many men and many ages, becomes to you beholding it rather the present temple of the ever living God.

Even thus it is only when we stand at the foot of the Redeemer's cross that we have eyes given us to see how and why the Bible is indeed "one book."

#### ADDRESS OF REV. ALEXANDER McKENZIE.

Mr. President,—The simple thought upon which I propose to offer a few remarks is this: That in the Bible we recognize a Father's gift to his children.

It is an expressive tribute to the worth of the Bible, that in this day of stirring events, when of making many books there is literally no end; after this book, more than any other, has been tried by every test which friends or foes could devise; after scholarly research and reckless speculation have dissected its pages, analyzed, criticised, weighed, measured them, line by line, word by word; after the hot fires of persecution have done their worst to destroy it, and time, which buries cities and nations, has swept by centuries over it; the book retains its preëminent place, and can call together so many shrewd, intelligent men and women, to testify to its inestimable precious-

ness and its sacred truthfulness. This Book has a history which is interwoven with the history of man. It is long, eventful, grand. What a story there is belonging to single copies of the Holy Scriptures! To the Books of Moses which belonged in the house of the Lord, which were lost in the time of idolatry and found at the repairing of the Temple, at whose reading the young king Josiah rent his clothes. Or to that roll of Esaias from which our Lord read in the synagogue at Nazareth, when the glorious words of the prophet were fulfilled in the ears of those who heard. Or to that Latin Bible which Luther discovered in the Library at Erfurth, himself twenty years old and two years a University student, yet ignorant that the world contained such a book, or that there was more of God's Word than the fragments in the church service, but holding and searching the discovered treasure with throbbing heart and tearful eye. The Word was precious when Moses was the author of it all, and grew in value as it took to itself History and Psalm and Prophecy. But who shall estimate its worth when the Gospels joined themselves to the Law and the Prophets, and the Acts of the Apostles were written for our learning, and the Epistles came for the instructing and sanctifying of the saints, and the wondrous visions of the Apocalypse crowned the whole! "Thy Word," wrote poor David over his scant parchment rolls, "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet." But he who now looks back upon the Prince of David's line, may cry with loftier exultation, "Thy Word is a sun unto my feet, and the blazing heavens unto my path."

It was a fine thing to have one copy of the sacred scrolls for the synagogue, to be read at stated times by men able to explain the record. It was better for a town to have one Bible fastened to a public post, where all who would and could might stand and read for themselves. But what shall we say of Bibles and Testaments printed in many languages, by hundreds of thousands, in every year, by our own National Society? It is the day of Pentecost come again, when Parthians and Medes and the dwellers in Mesopotamia may hear the Word of life, the counsel of the Spirit of God, and every man in his own tongue wherein he was born. A brighter day was beginning to dawn when Luther unearthed the Latin Bible at Erfurth! And the

Scriptures have gone from land to land, and have at length passed into the Arabic tongue, in which, we are told, they will reach more persons than speak any other single language. As this task of many weary years draws towards its completion—this marvel of industry, this wonder of patience, this ripe fruit of Christian scholarship,—and the West gives back to the East the pure Word of God, new faith enters into the prayer of our childhood and our manhood, "Thy kingdom come."

This book, The Book, now so familiar to the children, has come from afar to the homes it blesses. Our Father's hand has brought it to us. Written in a corner of the earth, among an obscure people, the older part was in a language little used by men, and scarcely known outside of Palestine. The conquests of Alexander and his successors drove the Jews westward, and at Alexandria their Scriptures were at once translated into Greek, the language of science, philosophy, learning, the common tongue of great peoples. In this widely diffused language, the New Testament was written by men born to another kind of speech. The Roman supplanted the Greek, and one of the earliest results of the change was the translation of the Scriptures into Latin, then becoming more and more the voice of the world. God was speaking more loudly to men. In due time came the Reformation to set the light upon a candlestick, and those happy thoughts of men by which its brightness could be magnified, and its rays sent across the seas. At length, from these shores, then trodden by savage feet, the light is streaming back to Italy and Greece and Jerusalem; and with earnest hearts to love it and living hands to speed it on its heavenly mission, "The Word of God is not bound." The Bible is God's gift to men.

Looking at the Bible in its inherent character, or at its position and influence in the world, it ranks worthily among the best works of God. The Book is like the Author. It is an unfolding of his being and purposes and commands; the rule of our faith, the rule of our practice. Our very conception of the character of God is a witness to the divine origin of the Bible. We call Him "Our Father." And surely a Father will hold intercourse with his children. If He casts us off at our

birth, then we are orphans. If his care for us is only general, working out results through some system of moral machinery, He may be wise and good, but we should not think Him fatherly. We are taught by Him who knew God best to speak to Him, saying "Our Father." Shall all the speaking be on our part? We can hardly overestimate the nearness of God to us, as Christ, his Son, has revealed Him. Instinctively and obediently we address Him who is before us and behind us, and who knoweth all our ways. And untaught we should believe that He will hear and answer. The heathen expect a response when they listen at their sacred oracles. The external world does not touch us closely enough to make God known in his holiness and Spirit moves upon spirit, the divine upon the human; but we need something universal, definite, tangible; to be studied, preserved, transmitted. To make a separate and perfect revelation of Himself to each one of the millions of men is indeed possible with God. But it is not like Him. He makes men his ministers, and requires us to work for ourselves and So was it with our Lord, who let men bring the for others. water he would make wine, and roll the stone from the door out of which life was to issue at his word. It was simple and natural for God to disclose Himself and declare his counsel to a few men chosen for the office, and through them to make Himself known to all, to the latest generation. To his disciples our Lord gave the few loaves, and they fed the multitude. "There is a spirit in man, and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth him understanding." God has ordained that we shall hold communication with one another by words, and it is natural to suppose that He will come to us with words spoken by men whom He has instructed. If words were needed in Paradise, when man was innocent, they are more needed out of it when man is erring and guilty. And because God speaks to us by the men He has ordained, we can have a sure word of prophecy. and can repeat it to those who have not heard it, even ourselves speaking with authority and not as the scribes.

The Bible has this presumption in its favor, that God would naturally give to the world a revelation in the words by which He bids us reveal ourselves, and that no other book is for a moment to be thought of as such a revelation. We need a plain

utterance of God, which we can hear and repeat. The heavens declare his glory. But what is to declare his grace? grand, but it is not enough, for Jehovah to syllable his thoughts in mountains, or print them in fields and streams, or paint them along the sky. The contrite heart looks up to the guardian hills, and gazes into the brilliant depths, and still unsatisfied utters its longing cry, "What must I do to be saved?" Who shall answer? God, who alone can save. God, speaking through Moses and the prophets; more plainly through Apostles who take the truth in words from the lips of the speaking Christ, and fix them to the enduring page, and give them to the Church with this command shining among the promises, "Go, teach all nations." And thus does the line of God's truth go out through all the earth, and unto the end of the world his words. Is it not because we have The Book, that we know God better than nations which in other respects have been as highly favored? Was it not a Gospel of words which under the working of the Divine Spirit brought our heathen ancestors to the knowledge of the God we worship? A Gospel of words, words of love, pardon, salvation, holiness, spoken by living men, read from the printed page, obeyed in the heart and life, is working out the deliverance of the world. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

See the fatherly element also in the repetitions of the Bible. In this it is like no other book. What we should condemn in another book is one of the marked excellencies of this. lation might have been made in a few sentences, the truths condensed into a few leading points, long chapters reduced to apothegms and epigrams. Why is not the Bible as small as an ordinary Tract to be committed to memory in an hour? God would have been good even then. But what father thus instructs his children? Here God's will is declared in set form, in parable, in living illustration. His promises are made, repeated, exhibited in the real lives of men. His comfort is seen in gentle words, and in the hearts which are blessed with its consolation. The time would fail us to tell the instances which God recounts of the working of faith alone. It is line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little, even as it is between father and child. There are single verses which are worth more than all the other books which have been written. Our

own Bible House, with all its toiling presses, and its expenditure of time and money, would have paid for itself long ago had it done nothing else than repeat in the ears of sinful men the words of penitence which sent a publican down to his house justified. It is worth all the expense many times over to have the world taught by a single verse, that God so loved the world that He gave his Son. Yet these are but a few of many inestimable, indispensable truths repeated, illustrated, enforced, that all may read and know. It is a father's kindness.

Mark, also, the whole tone of the Scriptures. The morality they inculcate is worthy of their divine and paternal origin. The precepts are unfolded out of one, "Be ye perfect, as your Father is perfect," and they are alike for all his children. They do not bend like the Lesbian rule, but are firm as tables of stone. Yet there is a condescension to our infirmities. There is little of bald command. Even the Law of Sinai, with its awful majesty, puts argument before statute. The remembrance of mercy prepares the way for authoritative precept. The sermon on the mount, more strict than the Decalogue, begins with the Beatitudes. It is Father and God: Saviour and Lord.

The Book is for all the children. Though written by Jews, it is for the world. With frequent reference to the wants and habits of one nation, its instruction suits itself to all lands. Who thinks when he reads the Psalms that they formed a part of a strange, ceremonial worship, or that the Epistles were addressed to churches which have passed away? God is the Father of man. Jesus is the Son of Man. The Bible is given to man. As the child is to come instinctively to his Father for counsel and command, so are men everywhere to draw near to God, and to hear in his holy word a Father's voice. us bring our minds to be instructed, our hearts to be sanctified, our will to be controlled: finding the Lord's precept, and the Lord's promise where we find the Lord's prayer. We are to use this Gift, and to send it wherever our Father's children have their home. If they and we are hearers of the word, doers of the word and not hearers only, letting a faithful childhood answer to a true fatherhood, we shall come to say with David, "O how love I thy law!" "How sweet are thy words unto my taste." "The entrance of thy word giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple."

The Report of the Trustees was then accepted, and the public services were closed by a doxology, and the benediction by Bishop EASTBURN.

Thanks were voted to the speakers for their Addresses, and a copy of the same requested for publication, when the Society adjourned.

## CONSTITUTION.

# CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED, PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

### THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

#### ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

SEC. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Drown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise, and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property, to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.

- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same: may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.—Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

#### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year Eighteen Hundred and Sixty-five. An Act in addition to an Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- SEC. 1. The Corporation heretofore established by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts, shall hereafter be known by the name of the Massachusetts Bible Society, and by that name shall have, hold and enjoy all its rights and privileges and be subject to all its liabilities and obligations to the same extent as if its name had not been changed.
- SEC. 2. The said Society may publish, procure, purchase, circulate and distribute Bibles and Testaments in any other than the English language, in the same manner and to the same extent as they are now authorized by law to distribute Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, any thing in the Act incorporating the said Society to the contrary notwithstanding.—Approved by the Governor, February 27, 1865.

## BY-LAWS.

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At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

#### ARTICLE I.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

#### ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

#### ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

#### ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled by the Recording Secretary.

#### ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, fourteen Vice Presidents, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice Presidents, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

#### ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice Presidents and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

#### ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess al the power and authority vested by the act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

#### ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

#### ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

#### ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository.

#### ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

#### ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

### PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository, annually, the value of one dollar in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the current, not for past years.

## MEMBERS FOR LIFE.

#### BY THE PAYMENT OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

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Davis, John, Semerville.

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Norton, Rev. Edward, Montague. Nourse, B. Alden, Westboro'. Nourse, Daniel, West Medway. Nourse, Susan M., Bolton. Noyes, Alva, North Bridgewater. Noyes, Jacob, Abington. Noyes, Luke B., South Abington. Noyes, Rufus S., N. Bridgewater. Oatley, G. D., Whitinsville. Odlin, Benjamin, Ezeter, N. H. Odlin, Mrs. E. T. Ordway, Aaron L., New York city. Ordway, Miss Charlotte, Bradford. Osborne, George F., Peabedy Osgood, George C., Lowell. Osgood, H. B., Whitinsville. Packard, Rev. D Temple, Brighton. Packard, Edward C., North Bridgewater. Puckurd, S. Edwards, Springfield. Packard, S. Frankliv, Campello. Packard, Miss Susie P., Packard, Zibeon, Abington. Page, Ablguil L., Athinson, N. H. Paige, George R., New Salem. Paine, Mrs. Sarah M., Holden. *Paine, Miss Sarah C. Palmer, Rev. Charles Ray, Salem. *Palmer, Rev. Stephen, Needkam. Palmer, Squire, South Deerfield. Park, John C., Boston. Parker, Andrew, Gloucester. *Parker, John, Boston. Parker, Mrs. Sarah, " *Parkman, Francis, D. D. " *Parkman, Samuel, Parkman, Mrs. Sarah, Parmenter, Mrs. E. J. G., Petersham. *Parsons, Gorham, Besten. *Parsons, William, Partridge, Clark, Medway. Partridge, Joseph, Holliston. Patrick, Rev. Henry J., West Newton. Patrick, Mrs. Martha L. Patten, Mrs. John F., Derchester. Patterson, David H., Methuen. Paul, Frederick A., Lakeville. Paul, Henry, Newton. *Paul, Mrs. Henry, " *Paul, Luther, Paul, Luther, Jr. 44 Paul, Miss Harriet, 66 Paul, Miss Mary, Paul, Mrs. Ruth B., Medway. Payson, Miss Susan, Fexbere'. Payson, William P., Pearson, Miss Hannah J., Lewell. Pease, George W., Salem. Peckham, Hubbard, Petersham.

Peirce, Rev. Bradford K., Harlem, N. Y. Peoples, Samuel, Natick. Perkins, Benjamin C., Peabody. Perkins, E. E., North Middleboro'. Perkins, Jairus H. Perkins, James, Peabody. *Perkins, James, Boston. *Perkins, James, Jr. Perkins, Miss Mary A., Brighton. *Perkins, Thomas H., Boston. Perley, Mrs. Abigail T., Salem. Perley, Jacob, Perry, Miss Catharine H., Sherborn. *Peters, Edward D., Boston. Petors, Mrs. Lydia H., Berlin. Pettee, Daniel, Sharon. Pettee, Miss Eliza J., Fozboro'. Pottee, Samuel Gardner, Stoughton. Pettee, Willard, Fuzboro'. Phillips, Alonzo P., Peabody. *Phillips, Jonathan, Boston. Phillips, Mrs. Sally, *Phillips, William, Pickard, Rev. Daniel W., Groveland. Pickering, Henry W., Boston. *Pierce, Rev. Charles H., Millbury. Pierce, Isaac T., Whitineville. Pierce, Sylvester G., Winekester. *Pierpont, Rev. John, Medford. Pierson, Rev. Wm. Henry, Ipswick. Pike, John, D. D., Rowley. Plumb, Rev. Albert H., Chelson. Plumb, Joseph Dart, Plumer, Mrs. Martha H., Rowley. Plummer, Israel, Whitinsville. Pogue, Mrs. Joseph, Grafton. Pollard, Joseph G., Woburn Pollock, Miss Emma A., Whitinsville. Pond, Almira W., South Malden. Pond, John P., Boston. Pond, Mrs. Nancy, Medway. Pond, William E., Wrentham. Pool, Solomon, Gloucester. Poor, Juseph, South Danvers. Poor, Nathan H. Porter, Samuel S., Winchester. Pratt, Cornelius, North W. Pratt, Galen, North Bridgewater. Pratt, Galen E. Pratt, Rev. George H., Harvard. Pratt, Norton, Braintres. Pratt, Phebe, Skerborn. Pratt, Zebulon, North Middlebore'. Prentice, Miss Julia, Grafton. Prentice, Marvel, Whitinsville. Prenties, Luke, *Prescott, William, Boston. *Prince, Rev. J. M., Georgetown.

Prince, Mrs. Sarah B., Quincy. Pritchard, William, Newburyport. Proctor, Henry H., Peabody. Proctor, Mrs. Lucy A., Gloucester. Proctor, Sarah A. E., Peabudy. Proctor, Thorndike, Puffer, Mrs. Joeiah, Harvard. Quincy, Thomas D., Dorchester. Quincy, Mrs. J. C. Quincy, Thomas D., Jr. " Rankin, Rov. J. Eames, Charlestown. Rankin, Mrs. Mary Ray, George W., Medicay Village. Raymond, Helen S., Boston. Read, Miss Martha, East Abington. Reed, Miss Caroline G., Haverhill. Reed, Horace, South Abington. Rice, Mrs. Agnes L., Boston. Rice, Edward, Wayland. Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth C., Lawrence. Rice, Mrs.. Henry A., Boston. Rice, Miss M. Augusta, Westboro'. Rich, Rev. Alonzo B., Beverly. Rich, Rev. A. Judson, Westminster. Rich, Mrs. Harriet L., Richards, Mrs. A. M., Bridgeport, Ct. Richards, James F., Campello. Richardson, Benjamin P., Boston. Richardson, John W., Medway. Richardson, Luther, Winchester. Richardson, Miss Sarah E., Concord. Richardson, Sumner, Winchester. *Ritchie, Andrew, Jr., Boston. Robbins, Andrew, Groton. Robbins, Chandler, D. D., Beston. *Robbins, Edward H. Roberts, Rev. Jacob, East Medicay. Roberts, Mrs. Mary A. Roberts, Mrs. Ruth, Manchester. Robertson, James, Peabody. Robinson, Charles W., Auburndale. Robinson, H. W., North Bridgewater. Robinson, Rev. Reuben T., Winchester. Robinson, Mrs. Clara A. Rockwood, John, Groton. Rockwood, Miss Polly S., Askland. Rogers, George, Boston Rogers, George L., Newburyport. Rogers, Shubael G., *Rogers, Rev. William M. Russell, Sarah J., Framingkam. Ryder, Marietta, Chatham. Safford, Rev. George B., Burlington, Ft. *Salisbury, Samuel, Boston. Sanford, Mrs. Adeline D., Medway Village. Sanger, Edward G., Cambridgeport. Sargeant, James C., Oakhem. Sargent, Edmund, West Ameebury.

*Bargont, Lucius M., Besten. Bargent, Samuel G., Methuen. Bawtell, Mrs. Ephraim, Groten. Bawyer, George, Campello. Sawyer, Martha S., " Sawyer, Suth C., E. Rendolph. *Beuilder, Charles, Boston. Soudder, Mrs Sarah L. " Senry, Mire Hagnah M., Achfield. Seaver, A. W., Northboro's Scoley, Raymond H., D. D., Baserkill. Beeley, Mrs. Funny B. Selfridge, Thomas O., Boston. Shattuck, Andrew, Greton. Bhaw, Mrs. Hooneh, Boston. Sholdon, Rev. Luther H., Jamesburgh, N.J. Bhelden, Mrs. Barah H. Shepherd, Thomas, Winchendon. Shiverick, Miss Maria L., Campelle. Sabley, Miss Linnie M., Westhoro's. Bigourney, Andrew, Beston. Sigourney, Henry, Bk Hings, David N., Winchester. *Sluck, Rugglos, Beston. Blafter, Rev. Edmund F. 4 Stafter, Mrs. Edinund F., " Bleeper, William C., Markuen. Small, Amos T , West Amsebury. Small, Mrs. Fidelia Poster, Millburg. Small, Sumuel A. South, Mrs. Abby P., Concord, Brusil, Mrs. Sumner, Nauton Centre. Bmith, Albert W., Boston. Smith, Mrs. Lucy Jane, " Smith, Joel, Whitiaspille. Smith, Rav. Edward P., Breeklyn, N. Y. Smith, Mrs. Huttie J., Gloucester. Smith, Jonathan, Whitineville. Smith, Matson M., D. D., Newark, N. J. Smith, Mrs. Matson M. Smith, Norman, Groton. Smith, Mrs. Mary J. " Smith, Richard, Panbody. Smith, Mrs. Charlotte, " Bmith, Bamuel, Boston. Smith, Mrs. Sarah, Andover. Smith, Warren N., Whitinsville. Snow, Mrs. Caroline, Newton Corner. Snow, Mrs. Mark, Chatham. Boule, Henry M., South Abington. Southgate, Charles M., Ipowich. Southgate, Rev. Robert, Boutlights, Miss Frances S. *Southgate, Mrs. Mary Prances, " Bouthworth, Mrs. Caroline M., Madway. Spooner, W. B., Besten. Spring, Mrs. Adela C., Whitinsville. Stuny, Albert, Concord.

Stebbins, Bev. Milan C., Springfeld. Stevens, Norman C., Newton. Stevens, Mrs. E. M. Stevene, Bamuel, Glongeter. *Stoddaed Lawin T., Brookling. Stone, Andrew L., D. D., San Francisco, Cal. Stone, Mrs. Matskin P. Stone, Martha A., Newton Cantre. Storrs, Eunice C. Braintres. Stores, Aichard C., D. D. 44 Stowell, Mrs. Abby Hubbard, Concord. Btowell, Cyrus A., Smith Damfield. Strong, Rav. J. C., St. Charles, Minnesota. Strong, Mrs. J. C ... Studley, Austin, East Abington. Studiey, Edward A., Boston. Sugden, Miss Mary, Braintres. Sumner, Rev Charles S., Monson. Summer, Mrs. H. H., Fozbere'. Swagey, Mrs. Francos A., Lynn. Swett, Samuel W., Boston Swift, Muss Lottio H , Andover, Bwitzer, Rav. Chrestopher Provincatous. Taft, Gustavus E., Waltunspille. Taft, Jacob, Urbridge. Tapley, Gilbert, Daspers. Tappan, John, Besten. Turr, William J., Gloucester. Tuylor, Mrs. Malanen, Winchester. Toule, Ray. Albert K., Milton. Teele, Mrs. Cornelia C. H Temple, Mark M., Reading. Tenney, Mrs. Mary P Wiechester. Terry, Rev. James P., South Woymouth. Thacher, Mrs. Anna S., Hyde Perk. Thather, Mise Calista C., Attlebers'. Thucher, John, Thacher, Mrs. Susan C , Attisfore's Thacher, William T., Hyde Park. Thacher, Susan B., Portland, Ma. "Thatcher, Mary Ludlow, Middlebere". Thuyer, Amusa, Braintres. Thayer, E. F. E. Thuyer, Iru. Thuyer, Mrs. Lille, " Thayor, Rov. J. Henry, Andever. Theyer, Mrs. Martha C. 44 Thayer, Ollver, *Thuyer, Mer. Jane, Boston. Theyer, Robert H., New York City. Thayer, Sarah H., Brainfree, Thompson, Mrs. Averick F., Warsham. Thompson, Mrs. Emily B., Concord. Thompson, Everett A., Wast Amesbury. Thompson, Samuel A. Thompson, Mrs. Anne Elize, " Thompson, George R., North Bridgemater. Thompson, Stephen, Winchester.

Thurston, Rev. Richard B., Stamford, Ct. Tolman, Rev. Richard, Tewksbury. Tolman, Rev. Samuel H., Wilmington. Torrey, Miss Elizabeth L., South Weymouth. Torrey, James, North Weywouth. Trask, Charles II., Jr., Manchester. Trask, Mrs. A. H. Trask, Lizzie R., Gloucester. Trask, Samuel, Peabody. Trowbridge, Mrs. Asa, Brighton. *Tucker, Rev. Elijah W., Lebanon, Ct. Tucker, Mrs. Hannah W., Dorchester. *Tucker, Jesse, Milton. Tucker, Mrs. Mary R., Boston. Tucker, Nathan, Milton. Tucker, Mrs Nathan, " Tucker, John A., Dorchester. Tucker, William, Tucker, William W., Boston. Tufte, Charles, Andover. Turner, Miss Alice Montgomery, Randolph. Tuttle, Miss Martha E., Concord. Tuttle, Miss Sarah, Wayland. Tuttle, Thomas S., Littleton. Twichell, John M., Fitchburg. Tyler, Jerome W., Boston. *Underhill, Rev. John W., N. Amherst. Upton, Mrs. Lucy, Peabody. Uptun, Moses T., Salem. Vone, Miss Priscilla, Antrim, N. H. Vose, William H., Fitchburg. Wadsworth, Mrs. Lucy, Mi ton. Wadsworth, William, Boston. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. Wuldron, Rev. Daniel W., East Weymouth. Wales, Erastus, East Randolph. Wales. Miss Mary Ann, Boston. Walker, Ellen A., East Abington. Walker, Miss Frances A., Haverkill. Walker, Rev. Geo. F., Little Compten, R. I. Walker, John S., East Medway. Walker, Mrs. John S. " Walker, Levi, Bridgewater. Walker, Moses, Haverkill. Walker, Nathaniel, " Walker, Robert G., Boston. Walker, William M., East Abington. *Walley, Samuel H., Boston. Walley, Samuel H. Ward, Artemas, Ward, Rev. James W., Lakeville. Ward, Mrs. Caroline L. " Ward, Salem T., Winchester. Ward, Miss Susan H., Lakeville. Warner, John, Newton. Warner, William, South Deerfield. Warren, George W., Boston.

*Warren, Mrs. Diantha A., Lynn.

*Warren, Mrs. Maria, Grafton. *Warren, Nehemiah, Stow. Warren, Francis W. Warren, Jonas, " Warren, Lucinda, Warren, William A., Winchester. Washburn, William B., Greenfield. Washburn, Mrs. William B., " Watkins, Miss Abby A., Gloucester. Weeks, Mrs. L. Caroline, Millington. Welch, John, Boston. Weld, James, Wells, Mrs. Martha D., Northboro'. Wellman, Rev. Jo-hua W., Newton. Wendell, Mrs. Catharine, Boston. Wentworth, Albert, Haverkill. Wentworth, Lawis, Bridgewater. Wheeler, Ahijah R., East Medway. Whitcomb, Lewis, East Randolph. *Whitromb, Reubon. Harvard. *Whitcomb, Reuben, Jr. Whitcomb, Mrs. Abby F. *Whitcomb, Mrs. Louisa D. " Whitcomb, Miss Mary M. White, Aaron L., Medway. White, Cornelius, South Randolph. *White, James, Boston. White, Joel, Uzbridge. White, Josiah, Peterskam. White, Mrs. Mary C., Phillipston. White, Newton, East Randolph. White, Phineas A, Whitinsville. White, Thomas, East Rand Iph. Whitin, Charles P., Whitinsville. Whitin, Charles E. Whitin, Mrs. Catharine H. " Whitin, Edward, Whitin, James F. Whitin, Mrs. Patience H. Whitin, Paul, 66 Whitin, Mrs. Sarnh J. Whitin, Mrs. Sarah R. " Whiting, Lemuel, Groton. Whitman, Charles, Lowell. Whitmarsh, Mary, South Abington. Whitmore, Annie Maria, Lynn. Whitney, Charles H., Cambridgeport. Whitney, Dora S., South Groton. Whitney, Frederick, Westminster. Whitney, Helon J., Stow. Whitney, Isaac S., Gloucester. Whitney, Israel, Boston. Whitney, Mrs. Permelia V., Petersham. Whitney, Richard D., Springfield. Whitney, Mrs. Susanna, Rutland. *Wigglesworth, Thomas, Besten. Wilbur, Joseph, Tauxten. Wild, Daniel, Besten.

Wilder, Hattie W., Stow. Willcox, Rev. William H., Reading. Williams, Rov. Edward F., Whitinsville. Williams, Miss Elizabeth C., Groton. Williams, Miss Mary D., Greenfield. Williams, S. H., Fozboro'. Williams, Thomas S., Auburndale. Wilson, Rev. Thomas, Stoughton. Winslow, Pelham, East Abington. Winter, David Baker, Northbridge. Winthrop, Robert C., Boston. Winthrop, Thomas L. " Withington, Otis, Brookline. Wolcott, Mrs. Elizabeth, Peabody. Wolcott, William, Woodbury, Simon J., Sutton. Wood, Mrs. Abijah, Westboro'.

Wood, Cyrus K., Gardner. Wood, Elizabeth C., Fozbero'. Wood, Joseph W., Whitinsville. Wood, Mrs. E. S. Wood, Mrs. Samuel F., Chelmeford. Woul, Mrs. Susan, Groton. Wood, Theodore S., Westminster. Woods, Miss Abbie Wheeler, Malden. Woods, Frank Austin, New Braintres. Woods, Joseph Wheeler, Boston. Woods, Samuel H. Woodward, Ebenezer, Newton. Woodward, Miss Emily, Newton U. Falls. Worcester, Miss Sallie, Brighton. *Worthington, William, Boston. Wyman, Charles, Lancaster. Wyman, Rufus, Rozbury. Wyman, William G., Fitchburg.

## FORM OF A BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY.

I give, devise and bequeath, to the MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE Society, incorporated in the year Eighteen hundred and ten, the sum of to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of the Society.

LETTERS relating to Agencies, or to the general interests and policy of the Society, should be directed to Rev. Daniel Butler, Recording Secretary, 15 Cornhill, Boston.

Remittances for Books, donations from churches and individuals, and orders for Books, should be addressed to S. T. FARWELL, Agent, 15 Cornhill, Boston.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

# Receipts from April 1, 1867, to April 1, 1868. BARNSTABLE COUNTY.

Barnstable, Centreville, Congregational Church and Society, Chatham, Congregational Church and Society,  Falmouth, First Congregational Church and Society,  A Friend,  East, Congregational Church and Society,  Waquoit, Congregational Church and Society,  Harwich, Christian Convention,	27 2 13 6	28 75 00 00 00 00 25
Yarmouth, First Congregational Church and Society,	38	<b>52</b>
BRISTOL COUNTY.	<b>\$</b> 128	80
Easton, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, .	<b>♠</b> 54	00
Mansfield, Congregational Church and Society,	•	70
" Methodist Episcopal Church,		30
Rehoboth, Congregational Church and Society,		00
Seekonk, Congregational Church and Society,		10
Taunton, Trinity Congregational Church and Society,	0Z	65
	<b>\$</b> 152	75
ESSEX COUNTY.		
Amesbury, Congregational Church and Society,	<b>2</b> 21	15
Andover, a friend, (L. M.),	20	00
" Chapel Congregation,	86	59
" North, Congregational Church and Society,	21	87
Beverly, Dane Street Church,	45	
Bradford, Congregational Church and Society, (This church		
contributed last year \$61.11, which by mistake		
was credited to the North Church, Haverhill.) .	<b>5</b> 0	27
Danvers, First Congregational Church and Society,	48	
" Maple St. Church and Society,	41	
Essex, First Church and Society, (1 L. M.).	25	
Georgetown, First Congregational Church and Society,	24	
Groveland, Congregational Church and Society,	15	
Gloucester, Evangelical Church and Society,	70	
Hamilton, Congregational Church and Society,		45
Haverhill, North Congregational Church and Society,	84	

Haverhill, Centre Congregational Church and Society,	<b>\$</b> 47	<b>75</b>
Mrs. Richard Kimball, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
" Rev. Moses Kimball,	2	00
Ipswich, First Church and Society,	14	25
"South Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	27	90
Lawrence, Eliot Church and Society,	13	00
" Lawrence St. Methodist Episcopal Ch., (1 L. M. A.	B. s.) 21	65
Lynn, First Congregational Church and Society,	30	99
"Swanton Whitmore, (bal. 1 L. M.)	. 10	00
Manchester, Society of Rev. E. P. Tenney,	. 9	<b>30</b>
" Society of Rev. F. V. Tenney,	16	63
Methuen, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	46	57
Newbury, Congregational Church and Society,	21	00
Newburyport, First Presbyterian Church and Society,	55	15
" Prospect Street Church and Society,	87	00
" A Friend, (2 L. M. A. B. S.)	75	00
" Whitefield Church,	. 29	81
Salem, Crombie St. Church,	46	00
"Tabernacle Church,	47	28
" Capt. D. H. Hutchinson,	50	00
" South Church and Society,	95	05
Topsfield, Congregational Church and Society,	. 25	00
	\$1,311	79
	<b>4</b> 1,011	
FRANKLIN COUNTY RIBLE SOCIETY		
FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.		
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.		
Mr. WILLIAM Elliot, Greenfield, Tr. Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society,	•	
Mr. WILLIAM Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society,  Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society,	. 3	00
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society,  Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,	3 20	00 36
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society,  Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Conway, Congregational Church and Society,	3 20 90	00 36 25
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society,  Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society,  Buckland, Congregational Church and Society,  Conway, Congregational Church and Society,  Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society,	3 20 90 10	00 36 25 00
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society,	3 20 90 10 30	00 36 25 00 29
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society,	3 20 90 10 30	00 36 25 00 29 06
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Hon. Wm. B. Washburn,	3 20 90 10 30 17 50	00 36 25 00 29 06 00
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Hon. Wm. B. Washburn, Miss Hannah S. Russell,	3 20 90 10 30 17 50	00 36 25 00 29 06 00
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Hon. Wm. B. Washburn, Miss Hannah S. Russell, Leyden, George Childs,	3 20 90 10 30 17 50	00 36 25 00 29 06 00 00 25
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Hon. Wm. B. Washburn, Miss Hannah S. Russell, Leyden, George Childs, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	3 20 90 10 30 17 50	00 36 25 00 29 06 00 00 25 60
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Hon. Wm. B. Washburn,  "Miss Hannah S. Russell, Leyden, George Childs, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  "A Friend, (1 L. M.)	3 20 90 10 30 17 50 1	00 36 25 00 29 06 00 25 60
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Hon. Wm. B. Washburn,  "Miss Hannah S. Russell, Leyden, George Childs, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. m.)  "A Friend, (1 L. m.) Northfield, Trinitarian Society,	3 20 90 10 30 17 50 1	00 36 25 00 29 06 00 25 60 00 35
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Hon. Wm. B. Washburn,  Miss Hannah S. Russell, Leyden, George Childs, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  A Friend, (1 L. M.)  Northfield, Trinitarian Society, Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	3 20 90 10 30 17 50 1	00 36 25 00 29 06 00 25 60 00 35 00
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Hon. Wm. B. Washburn,  "Miss Hannah S. Russell, Leyden, George Childs, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. m.)  "A Friend, (1 L. m.) Northfield, Trinitarian Society, Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. m.) Shelburne Falls, Congregational Church and Society,	3 20 90 10 30 17 50 1 23 25 13 50 23	00 36 25 00 29 06 00 25 60 00 35 00 82
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Hon. Wm. B. Washburn,  Miss Hannah S. Russell, Leyden, George Childs, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. m.)  A Friend, (1 L. m.)  Northfield, Trinitarian Society, Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. m.) Shelburne Falls, Congregational Church and Society, Shutesbury, Estate of Seraphina Crossett,	3 20 90 10 30 17 50 1 23 25 13 50 23	25 00 29 06 00 25 60 00 35 00 82
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Hon. Wm. B. Washburn,  "Miss Hannah S. Russell, "Montague, George Childs, "A Friend, (1 L. M.)  Northfield, Trinitarian Society, Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.) Shelburne Falls, Congregational Church and Society, Shutesbury, Estate of Seraphina Crossett, Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	3 20 90 10 30 17 50 1 23 25 13 50 23	00 36 25 00 29 06 00 25 60 00 35 00 82 00
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Hon. Wm. B. Washburn,  Miss Hannah S. Russell, Leyden, George Childs, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. m.)  A Friend, (1 L. m.)  Northfield, Trinitarian Society, Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. m.) Shelburne Falls, Congregational Church and Society, Shutesbury, Estate of Seraphina Crossett,	3 20 90 10 30 17 50 1 23 25 13 50 23	00 36 25 00 29 06 00 25 60 00 35 00 82 00
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Ashfield, Congregational Church and Society, Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Deerfield, South, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Greenfield, Hon. Wm. B. Washburn,  Miss Hannah S. Russell, Leyden, George Childs, Montague, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. m.)  A Friend, (1 L. m.)  Northfield, Trinitarian Society, Shelburne, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. m.) Shelburne Falls, Congregational Church and Society, Shutesbury, Estate of Seraphina Crossett, Sunderland, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. m.) Whately, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. m.)	3 20 90 10 30 17 50 1 23 25 13 50 23 47 7	00 36 25 00 29 06 00 25 60 00 35 00 82 00 10 50
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## HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.

Mr. Roderick Burt, Springfield, Tr.

Monson, Congregational Church and Society,	\$ 47	00
Springfield, Central Methodist Episcopal Church,	14	00
	\$ 61	00
For Bibles,	<b>\$</b> 02	
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.		
Acton, Evangelical Church and Society,	<b>\$</b> 2	<b>50</b>
Arlington, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	117	21
Belmont, A Friend,	1	00
Cambridge, East, Methodist Episcopal Church,	10	00
" E. T	5	00
Charlestown, Winthrop Church, (3 L. M.)	<b>5</b> 8	<b>77</b>
Concord, Union Bible Society, (3 L. M.)	183	00
Framingham, Hollis Evangelical Church and Society,	<b>50</b>	00
" Mrs. Theda Garritt, (1 L. M. A. B. S.)	30	00
" Saxonville, A Friend,	1	00
Groton, Union Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	41	40
Hopkinton, Congregational Church and Society,	20	95
" Methodist Episcopal Church, (1 L. M., A. B. s.) .	30	00
Littleton, Congregational Church and Society,	8	25
Lowell, First Congregational Church and Society,	45	00
" Kirk Street Church and Society,	117	00
" High Street Church and Society,	43	60
" A Friend, (1 L. M. and 1 L. D. A. B. S.)	180	00
" Miss Emily Rogers,	5	00
Medford, First Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society,	86	69
Natick, First Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.) .	75	25
Wm. L. Coolidge, (1 L. M., A. B. S.)	30	00
Newton, A Friend,	<b>50</b>	00
" West, Mrs. B. C. C. Parker,	20	00
Pepperell, Congregational Church and Society,	24	15
Sherborn, Female Reading Society,	32	00
Shirley, Congregational Church and Society,	8	75
Townsend, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	5	50
Waltham, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society, .	46	<b>32</b>
Wayland, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, .	22	37
Westford, Congregational Church and Society,	13	<b>50</b>
Winchester, Congregational Church and Society, (3 L. M.) .	75	68

## NORFOLK COUNTY.

Braintree, Rachel A. Faxon,	. \$ 20	00
Dedham, First Congregational Church and Society,	87	54
" South, Congregational Church and Society,	. 40	47
Dorchester, Village Church,	45	5 2
" J. F. P.,	. <b>5</b>	00
" Rev. J. H. Means,	6	00
" J. C. Bowker,	1	00
East Randolph, Winthrop Church, (1 L. M.)	32	18
Foxboro', Congregational Church and Society,	34	00
Franklin, Congregational Church and Society,	49	29
Medway, First Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.).	45	25
"Village Church, (3 L. M., bal.)	<b>58</b>	00
" West, Congregational Church and Society,	38	00
Milton, Mrs. Lucy Wadsworth, (5 L. x.)	100	00
Randolph, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	80	61
Roxbury, German Methodist Episcopal Church,	8	00
" Mrs. Charles Bradford,	2	00
" Eliot Church,	322	54
" Vine Street Church, Mrs. Fifield,	2	00
Sharon, Congregational Church and Society,	30	26
Walpole, Congregational Church and Society,		88
Weymouth and Braintree, Union Church and Soc., (1 L. M.)	29	00
East, Congregational Church and Society,		00
" South, Union Church and Society,	33	16
" Society of Rev. Mr. Terry,		00
" North, Pilgrim Church and Society,	12	04
•		
	\$1,142	74
· PLYMOUTH COUNTY.		
Abington, First Congregational Church and Society,	<b>\$</b> 47	00
" East, Congregational Church and Society,	101	_
Bridgewater, Central Square Church, (1 L. M.)	20	
Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (4 L. M.)	80	32
East Bridgewater, Union Church and Society,		00
Hingham, Evangelical Church and Society,		00
Kingston, Congregational Church and Society,		00
Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	20	
" An aged Widow, a gold bead,		33
Marshfield, First Congregational Church and Society,	17	
" North, Congregational Church and Society,		85
North Bridgewater, First Cong. Church and Soc., (1 L. M.)	20	
Plymouth, Mrs. Jane B. Gordon, (2 L. M.)	40	
Wareham, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	23	
, 66	-	<del>-</del>
	\$ 896	08

## SUFFOLK COUNTY.

SUFFULK COUNTY.		
Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Alden, Broadway,	. \$82	26
" Rev. Dr. Adams; Miss Hannah Hooper, .	. 10	00
" Rev. Dr. Kirk, Mount Vernon Church and Society, .	72	57
Rev. Dr. Robbins, Second Church,	64	00
" Park Street Church and Society,	179	49
44 A Friend, for the benefit of Freedmen,	<b>. . . .</b>	00
" Mr. E. W. Champney,	<b>. 5</b>	00
Baptist,	. 2	00
" A Friend, \$3; do. \$2.30,	, 5	30
" Annual Subscription of Members of the Society, .	328	38
Chelsea, Winnisimmet Church,	43	19
	<b>\$</b> 797	19
WORCESTER COUNTY.		
Fitchburg, Calvinistic Cong. Ch. and Soc., (4 L. M. A. B. S.).	\$ 129	21
Gardner, Congregational Church and Society,	•	33
Globe Village, Union Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	20	31
Grafton, Evangelical Church and Society, (3 L. M.)	130	00
" Saundersville, Society of Rev. J. E. Hall,	. 16	00
Hardwick, Bequest of Mrs. Mary C. Marsh,	. 6	67
Harvard, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	36	75
Leominster, Evangelical Church and Society,	. 11	25
Misses J. S. and E. A. Thurston,	1	00
Northbridge, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.) .	40	32
Whitinsville, Cong. Ch. and Soc., (12 L. M.) .	547	00
Phillipston, Congregational Church and Society,	22	82
Southbridge, Congregational Church and Society,	22	00
Spencer, Congregational Church and Society,	28	10
Upton, Congregational Church and Society,	10	05
Uxbridge, Evangelical Congregational Church, (3 L. M.) .	60	00
Westboro', Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, .	52	90
Westminster, First Congregational Church and Soc., (2 L. M.)	52	<b>55</b>
Winchendon, First Cong. Ch. and Soc., (1 L. M. A. B. 8.)	33	<b>30</b>
" North, Congregational Church and Society, .	21	<b>50</b>
Worcester, Central Church,	60	32
·	\$ 1,367	38
MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS.		
New England Conference, Methodist Episcopal	630	11
San Francisco, Cal., C. W. Brandenburg, (1 L. M.)	20	
South Berwick, Me., N. C. Hobbs,		00
Rochester, N. H., Congregational Church and Society,	18	
Walpole, N. H., Simeon N. Perry,	80	

A Friend, by mail,	•	•	•	•	•	. 1	00
A Lady,	•	•	•	•	•	. 50	00
Mrs. E. D. Maine,	•	•	•	•	•	. 1	00
Collections by Rev. A. M. Osgood	l, Di	stribu	ting.	Agen	t, (pre	٧.	
received, \$530.12),	•	•		•	•	. 690	20
						\$1,440	76
COLI	ECI	TON:	g.				
By the Rev. E. F. SLAPTER,				rerica	n Bible	Society.	
St. Luke's Church, Chelsea, .	_	•			_	. \$11	13
St. Mary's Church, Dorchester,	•	•	•	_	-	•	00
All Saints' Church, Worcester,	•	•	•	•	•		00
Mrs. Dr. Fiske, Northampton,	_	•	•	•	•		00
Anonymous,	•	•	•	•	_		50
Trinity Church, Haverhill,	•	•	_	•	•	. 15	00
St. Andrew's Church, Hanover,	•	•	•	•	•		00
St. Mary's Church, Newton Low	or Fa	lla	•	•	•		90
St. Paul's Church, Newburyport,		ino	•	•	•		00
Christ Church, Waltham, .	•	•	•	•	•		00
St. John's Church, Charlestown,	•	•	•	•	•		00
•		•	•	•	•	•	00
St. James' Church, North Cambridge Church, Porthur	iage,	•	•	•	•	-	
St. James' Church, Roxbury,	•	•	•	•	•		22 75
St. Paul's Church, Dedham, .	•	•	•	•	•		75
Emmanuel Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	. 841	
Trinity Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	. 593	
St. Paul's Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	. 594	
Christ Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•		54
Trinity Church, Wrentham, .	•	•	•	•	•		25
Church of the Advent, Boston;		nber,	•	•	•		00
St. John's Church, Jamaica Plain	l <b>,</b> •	•	•	•	•	. 150	
Episcopal Mission to Seamen,	•	•	•	•	•		00
Grace Church, Newton Corner,	•	•	•	•	•	. 26	00
St. Paul's Church, Brookline,	•	•	•	•	•	. 175	00
						\$ 2,890	29
T.172	GAC	CIES.					
		ه ۱۱۱ مصدر				<b>A</b> 000	<b>A</b> A
Medway, Mrs. Charlotte Slocomb		•	•	•	•	. \$ 900	
Wayland, Sophia Moore, \$ 100, 1	ess T	86 (HO	V't T	ax,	•	. 94	00
						\$ 994	00
Bank Dividends and Interest,	•	•	•	•	•	. 1,198	20
Returned for Books donated, .	-	•	•	•	•	-	90
Sales,	•	•	•	•	•	. 19,544	_
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	-	•	•	-	÷		

## ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY

## THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

# MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY,

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING,

IN BOSTON,

MAY 24, 1869, BEING THEIR SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN & SON, 131 CONGRESS STREET.

1869.



### OFFICERS

OF THE

## MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY, 1869-70.

#### PRESIDENT.

#### Hon. SAMUEL H. WALLEY.

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CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

REV. GEORGE W. BLAGDEN, D. D.

RECORDING SECRETARY.
REV. DANIEL BUTLER.

TREASURER.

CHARLES HENRY PARKER, Esq.

AUDITOR.

THEOPHILUS R. MARVIN, Esq.

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Heman Lincoln,
Samuel May,
Jacob Sleeper,
Charles T. Russell,
Theophilus R. Marvin,
Charles W. Pierce,
Charles Henry Parker,
Francis E. Parker,
Robert C. Winthrop, Esq's.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

TO WHOM APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE MADE FOR BIBLES.
Rev. John O. Means, Albert Fearing, and Charles Henry Parker.

## OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FROM 1809 TO 1869.

PRESII	DENTS.	
Hon. William Phillips, 1809—27 Rev. John Pierce, D. D 1827—49 Hon. Simon Greenleaf, LL. D 1849—54	Hon. Richard Fletcher, Hon. Samuel H. Walley,	1854—5 <del>9</del> 1859
VICE PRE	SIDENTS.	
Rev. John Lathrop, D. D.       1809—16         Rev. John T. Kirkland, D. D.       1816—28         Rev. Henry Ware, D. D.       1828—44         Rev. John Codman, D. D.       1844—48         Hon. Simon Greenleaf, LL. D.       1848—49         Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D.       1849—53         Rev. N. L. Frothingham, D. D.       1853—61         Rev. Wm. R. Nicholson, D. D.       1861         William C. Plunkett, Esq.       1862         Edward Southworth, Eaq.       1862         John P. Williston, Esq.       1862	William B. Washburn, Esq.  Stephen Salisbury, Esq.  Charles Whitin, Esq.  Lee Claffin, Esq.  Caleb Holbrook, Esq.  James S. Amory, Esq.  Hon. John H. Clifford, LL. D.  Elisha Tucker, Esq.  James B. Crocker, Esq.  E. S. Moseley, Esq.	1862 1863 1862 1862 1862 1862 1862 1862
CORRESPONDING	SECRETARIES.	
Rev. Joseph Stevens Buckminster, 1809—13 Rev. Samuel C. Thacher, 1813—17 Rev. Charles Lowell, D. D 1817—18	Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D Rev. N. L. Frothingham, D. D. Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D.	1818—49 1849—53 1853
RECORDING S	ECRETARIES.	
Rev. John Pierce, D. D.	Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D. Rev. William M. Rogers, Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D. Rev. George Richards, Rev. Daniel Butler,	1845—49 1849—5 <b>2</b>
TREAS	URERS.	
Samuel H. Walley, Esq 1809—11         Hon. Peter O. Thacher, 1811—12         John Tappan, Esq 1812—35	Henry Edwards, Esq George R. Sampson, Esq Charles Henry Parker, Esq	18 <b>49—62</b>
EXECUTIVE	COMMITTEES.	
Rev. William E. Channing, D. D. 1809—18 Hon. Jonathan Phillips, 1809—16 Stephen Higginson, Esq 1809—15 Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D 1815—18 Edward Tuckerman, Esq 1816—30 Rev. Henry Ware, Jr., D. D 1818—30 Rev. Benjamin B. Wisner, D. D. 1891—35 Charles Tappan, Esq 1830—40	Rev. Francis Parkman, D. D. Rev. George W. Blagden, D. D. Henry Edwards, Esq. Rev. George Richards, George R. Sampson, Esq. Albert Fearing, Esq. Rev. John O. Means, Charles Henry Parker, Esq.	

## ANNUAL REPORT.

THE effect of the Scriptures upon mankind is declared in the Bible to be analogous to that wrought upon our earth by the rain. Perhaps the resemblance is in no particular more striking than in the mutually quiet methods of their operation. The earth under the influence of the rain puts on in silence its new life. No trumpet heralds the swelling of the buds or the opening of the flowers or the flowing of the rivulet

"That with a livelier green Betrays the secret of its silent course."

Precisely thus the Scriptures in the homes to which Christian charity conveys them do their pre-ordained work. Pervading and often hiding themselves in other influences, their transforming power is concealed by the visible agencies through which they work. The charm of novelty frequently so potent in benevolent enterprises has long since ceased to afford here its aid, both as it respects the work we do and the field we occupy. We are associated to circulate a book more common in our State than any other and through our

efforts the rain comes down where frequent showers have already fallen and frequent harvests waved their glad response.

And yet we rejoice that the dispensation of the Word has been committed to us, and that so good a measure of prosperity has attended us. Assured on authority we may not question that the Word shall not return void we gratefully record the fact that there have been issued from the Depository during the year forty-five thousand and twentyseven copies of the Scriptures. Of this number sixteen thousand four hundred and forty-seven were Bibles; seventeen thousand five hundred and fifty-nine were Testaments; four thousand nine hundred and fourteen copies of the New Testament and Psalms, and six thousand one hundred and seven smaller portions of the Scriptures. Of this number one thousand four hundred and four were in various foreign languages.

The gratuitous issues have amounted to nine thousand nine hundred and fifteen volumes, costing \$3,383.88. They have been given to seamen, mission Sabbath schools, city missions, freedmen, public institutions and public houses, and destitute families in Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina and Hayti.

The Rev. A. N. Osgood has been employed during the year in canvassing that portion of Essex county comprised within the towns of Marblehead, Beverly, Ipswich, Essex, Manchester, Gloucester, Rockport, Peabody, North Andover,

Bradford, Haverhill, and the city of Lynn. He visited twelve thousand three hundred and twenty-three families. Eight hundred and four families and one hundred and fifty-two individuals were found destitute of the Bible, of which number four hundred and thirty-two were supplied. Fifteen hundred and twenty-two volumes were sold and given away.

In the latter part of the summer Dr. C. B. Beane was employed to visit the towns of Amesbury, Salisbury and West Newbury, and the city of Newburyport in Essex county. In the prosecution of this work he visited four thousand five hundred and thirty families, of whom four hundred and eighty were destitute of the Scriptures. Of these ninety-six were supplied. Five hundred and forty-four volumes were distributed by sale or gift. The work in Newburyport and Newbury was performed under the direction and at the expense of the Merrimac Bible Society.

We are happy to notice a growing interest in the Scriptures among the Romish population of our State. This is evinced by the great increase of copies of the Douay Bible, amounting in some of the towns visited to one-fifth of the number of families and to the increasing friendliness manifested towards our distributors and their work. In instances not a few they are treated as friends and a ready ear is lent to their words of truth and kindness. It is not reasonable to suppose that any considerable number of our people can long be made as a part of their religion to

exclude the Bible from their dwellings and habitually violate the divine command to search the Scriptures. The day surely draws on when all who aspire to the Christian name will keep 'close to their heart and near their eye' the inspired records of the Christian faith.

The Rev. Mr. Slafter has labored a portion of the year among the Episcopal churches in the State. These labors, now continued for many years, have ever met with a kind response and have secured the generous aid of the churches.

The income of the Society, including a balance at the beginning of the year, of \$2,048.22, has been \$34,253.34. In donations, annual subscriptions and legacies, \$12,314.96; dividends and interest, \$1,171,00; return for books donated \$6.30; sales of books, \$18,712.86. In addition to the amount received into our treasury there has been sent directly to the American Bible Society from various portions of the State the further sum of \$12,530.59, making the whole amount raised in Massachusetts, deducting the balance for last year, \$44,735.71. The expenditures have been: For books, \$22,767.36; for General Agent, Distributing Agents, Depository Agent and Assistant, paper, printing, rent, fuel and incidental expenses, \$6,425.59; to the American Bible Society \$3,761.33, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$1,299.06.

The American Bible Society reports a year of unusual prosperity, its receipts amounting to \$731,734.73, while it has circulated one million

three hundred and eighty-six thousand volumes, of which number three hundred and twenty-seven thousand were issued in foreign lands, in fiftytwo languages and dialects, being a large advance over any preceding year. "The RE-SUPPLY OF THE WHOLE COUNTRY with the Bible, has been carried forward with vigor and success. Within the year, four hundred and seventy-four auxiliaries have canvassed their fields entirely or in part; six hundred and forty-seven thousand seven hundred and thirty-three families have been visited, of which sixty-four thousand one hundred and thirteen were found destitute of the Scriptures, and thirty-seven thousand seven hundred and twenty were supplied, besides fifteen thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine private individuals, ten thousand eight hundred and sixty-six soldiers and sailors, and one thousand five hundred and fifty-eight Sabbath and Mission Schools." Its work is now re-established in all the Southern States of the Union, and vigorous measures are prosecuted for the supply of all the people. A very interesting canvas is also in progress on the Central and Union Pacific Railroads.

Those persons who have come to this meeting from the country, could not fail to notice the busy life pervading fields that a short time since were silent and deserted under the iron reign of winter. The various processes by which the earth is prepared for the seed of the sower, are being carried on actively by those who see in the influences around them the sure promise of a coming

harvest. The changes which a few weeks have wrought around us, fairly represent the new moral life that is moving over our world. Austria, whose name has long been a synonyme for spiritual despotism, now rejoices in a free Gospel; from Vienna and from Pesth in Hungary, from Warsaw in Poland, and from Prague in Bohemia, for several years, a hundred and fifty thousand copies of the Scriptures have gone forth, yearly, to the people, and the work shows no decline. The measures once so effective for the suppression of the Scriptures, have been faithfully employed, but their power is gone in the rising intelligence of the people. Spain, long the despair of the patriot and Christian, feels the reviving influence, and wakes to a new life. From fifty depots of Bibles already established, faithful men are distributing the Word, and many homes hitherto destitute, each day rejoice in its possession. the reformation in Spain is scarcely more marked than that which is occurring in wide regions scattered over the world. Indeed, with reference to the increasing facilities for this work, it may be said that the world is all Spain. The changes taking place are not local but continental, like those transformations occasioned in nature by the revolutions of the seasons. A better season is dawning upon our world. "The winter is past; the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land."

Assured that the Scriptures are given by inspiration of God, and that their possession is of the last importance to all men, humanity and religion alike urge us to increased diligence in our especial work. Grateful for the past, and encouraged by the fair prospects now afforded us, we would go forward, humbly committing the cause to Him from whom all good counsels proceed, and by whom alone they are rendered effective.

# ANNUAL MEETING.

THE SIXTIETH ANNUAL MEETING of the MASSACHUSETTS BIBLE SOCIETY was held at the Rooms of the Society,
No. 15 Cornhill, on Monday, May 24, 1869, at nine o'clock,
A. M. In the absence of the President, Hon. ROBERT C.
Winthrop was called to the Chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. MILES, of Charlestown.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer, Charles Henry Parker, Esq., presented his Annual Report, which was read and accepted.

The Sixtieth Annual Report of the Trustees was presented by the Recording Secretary, when it was

Voted, That the reading of the same be deferred till the public meeting in the afternoon.

The officers of the Society were elected for the ensuing year.

The Society then adjourned, to attend the public services of the Sixtieth Anniversary at the Mt. Vernon Church, at three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Chair was taken by the President, the Hon. Samuel H. Walley.

The Scriptures were read and a prayer was offered by Rev. L. R. Eastman, Jr., of Somerville.

A hymn was sung, and the Report of the Trustees was read and accepted, when the President offered the following introductory remarks:—

# INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT.

Before asking you to act upon the acceptance of this Report, I cannot forbear saying a word;—it will be but a word.

Listening to those stirring words from Austria and Spain, as they are echoed by our Secretary, it fills my heart with sadness to look over this assembly, and see how thin it is, how few are here. Is it so, that this small assemblage is to be taken as a representation of the interest of this community in the cause which has brought us here this afternoon? "Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?" Have not this whole community received this blessing of which we are here to speak, and yet how few are here to testify of the goodness of God in giving us this blessing? How is it spoken of by the Psalmist? He tells us—"Thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name." And yet there has not been a year in the life time of any one of us, when there has been so much done towards magnifying that word and spreading it abroad through the earth, as during the year which has just closed.

Our institution celebrates this year its Sixtieth Anniversary. An old institution; yet not so old as the Bible, and the Bible not so old as its Author, our Creator. Is it on account of the age of the institution, or of the age of the Bible, that the community are indifferent to the cause? There will hardly be a meeting held during this whole week of anniversaries, at which there will not be, I presume, a better attendance than there is here this afternoon. And why is it so? Is it because we are ungrateful to God for his blessings? Why, see how the Bible

has gone forth from the beginning, notwithstanding the shafts of infidelity that have been aimed against it! Year after year its progress has been onward, while those shafts have fallen powerless to the ground; and notwithstanding the power exerted by infidelity, God's word has gone forth with increased might and majesty, until it is filling rapidly the whole earth in the fulfillment of its own predictions, and in spite of the machinations of Satan, and of all the instruments which he has forged for its destruction.

But in other ways, also, it is fulfilling its own predictions! When some of us were in our childhood, we used to read of 'the isles of the sea, waiting for God's law.' And how did we witness the fulfillment of that prediction, when the Sandwich Islands cast their idols to the moles and the bats, that they might receive the Gospel then on its way! During the last year there has come to light the existence, in the interior of Africa, of numerous tribes of people speaking the Arabic language, who are now coming in contact with the Scriptures, recently translated into that tongue.* Thus is fulfilled the prophecy, "Ethiopia shall stretch out her hands unto God," and thus are the Scriptures fulfilling in our day and before our eyes their own predictions.

But, friends, not to trespass upon your time, which will be so much better occupied, let me add one word more, and that is, in our own blessed experience, and in what we witness around us, how do the Scriptures fulfill their own predictions? We find, in the language of David, that when we are most afflicted, those words come home to us with sweetness and power. "Before I was afflicted, I went astray, but now have I kept thy word." And how do we find the language of exultation of the Apostle fulfilled in the case of believers, who, through fear of death, were all their life-time "subject to bondage," and yet are ena-

There exist near the borders of Liberia, and thence an indefinite distance inland, villages and tribes of negroes, who speak, read, and write Arabic.—These tribes would appear to be superior in culture and civilization to surrounding people. They profess the religion of Mohammed, shorn of much of its bigotry and intolerance. They are spreading this religion, by preaching and conquest, through an unknown but vast region of the interior of that mysterious continent. The way is open for evangelizing them through the Arabic language.—It may be that a process is going on in Central Africa similar to that by which the many languages and races of the Græco-Roman empire were all merged into one, and made susceptible of evangelization through the Greek tongue.—Missionary Herald, April, 1869.

bled to exclaim, at the near approach of death, in the language of Paul, "We know in whom we have believed, and that He will keep that which we have committed to him." Let us go forth from this meeting and beseech our fellow-men rightly to value and duly to appreciate the blessings which we enjoy in possessing the Bible.

## REMARKS OF REV. JOHN O. MEANS.

Mr. President,—I wish to offer a resolution at this stage of the meeting, in behalf of the Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, one of our Vice Presidents, who presided at our business meeting this morning, but is unable to be present this afternoon.

I hold in my hand a very interesting volume. It is a German publication—the thousandth volume of Tauchnitz's English Classics. One of the largest bookselling firms in Germany has been engaged, since the commencement of this century, in publishing the most useful and popular English books, in cheap form, for dissemination in this country, in England, and throughout the continent of Europe. Last December they had reached the nine hundred and ninety-ninth English work, and it occurred to Baron Tauchnitz that it would be a suitable and grand memorial to make the thousandth volume the English New Testament. He consulted Prof. Tischendorf, a distinguished Biblical scholar in certain directions,—more familiar with ancient manuscripts than any other man now living or who ever has lived, perhaps,—and engaged him to edit the work. There are three principal manuscripts of the Bible, on which all our versions rest; one called the Alexandrine Manuscript, in the British Museum; another in the Vatican, at Rome, called the Vatican Manuscript; and a new one, discovered by Prof. Tischendorf, while exploring in the peninsular of Sinai, at Sinai, which was brought by him to St. Petersburg, and recently edited by him, in Greek. He has prepared an English version of the New Testament, with a very brief introduction, giving a condensed and clear account of our various English versions and the manuscripts on which they are founded; and at the foot of each page, brief notes, containing all the variations in this particular manuscript from our text; an exceedingly compact, clear and valuable little book. It is imported so that it is sold here, in paper covers, for from sixty to seventy-five cents. In Germany, it is sold for about thirty-five cents; and probably larger numbers of this edition will be circulated than of almost any other.

In view of this interesting fact, Mr. Winthrop suggested that it would be suitable and proper for our Society to make some recognition of their work, and he has drafted this resolution, which, with your permission, I will read and present in his behalf, and move its adoption:

Resolved, That the Massachusetts Bible Society cannot fail to recognize among the most interesting events of the day, the publication of the New Testament, in the received English version, as the one thousandth volume of the Tauchnitz Edition of English Literature; and that our grateful acknowledgments are hereby offered to Bernhard Tauchnitz, the enterprising and eminent publisher of Leipsic, and also to Constantine Tischendorf, the distinguished and accomplished Professor, whose excellent preface and careful notes have added so much interest to the publication.

The Resolution was seconded by the Hon. ALBERT FEARING, and unanimously adopted.

The meeting was then addressed by the Rev. James B. Dunn, Rev. George S. Hare, D. D., and Samuel Eliot, Esq.

## ADDRESS OF REV. JAMES B. DUNN.

Mr. President—My interest in the Bible cause is such, that I promised to be present this afternoon, leaving duties devolving upon me at the General Assembly in New York—the only anniversary of this year in which I have promised to take part.

I shall never forget, sir, notwithstanding the slimness of this audience, that one hundred and twenty disciples, gathered in an upper room, gave the key-note of the glorious Gospel revelation that was to overturn the world, in the name of their great Master, Jesus Christ. But, sir, my attention was called, a short time ago, to a letter in the organ of a leading religious denomination of this State. In that letter, the writer said, "It is high time that we cease to give credence to the traditions handed

down to us through the Bible, seeing they are nothing more than simple myths, and unworthy the consideration of intelligent men." "Unworthy the consideration of intelligent men." not suppose, sir, that there is any one present to-day who takes that view; and yet I fear there are some present to-day, as there are in almost all our congregations, who do not realize the grand attractiveness that the Bible has in its varied features to the intellect of man. We frequently hear the remark made by members of our Bible families, that the young people do not appear to find anything attractive in the Bible. Why, sir, to carry out the figure employed in the opening sentences of the Report, as well as of the first hymn you have sung, let me say, that in that other volume, the volume of nature, which the finger of God has illustrated, with towering mountains and sweeping vales, shadowed by trees and fringed with flowers, we have nature so attractive, that it takes hold of the soul of man, and leads him to nature's God. As attractive, sir, do we find that Bible which your Society has been so earnestly engaged in disseminating; attractive not only in its glorious truths, but in the style and manner in which those truths are presented to the mind of How grandly simple and sublime is the style in which this Bible is written! We sometimes think it strange and almost incredible that simplicity should be compatible with sublimity, and yet, sir, the very grandeur of the sublime of Scripture is its simplicity.

Where is there anything so grandly sublime, and yet so touchingly simple as the opening sentence of that book? When the writer is about to discourse on one of the grandest of all themes, the creation of the world, he makes no invocation to mortal upon earth or spirit in heaven; neither, on the one hand, does he approach it with any trembling apology, or, on the other, with any flourish of trumpets; but, with grand simplicity he begins the great poem of the universe, the sacred drama of time and eternity in these words of touching simplicity: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." Where can you find anything grander or simpler than these words?—"He bowed the heavens also, and came down; and darkness was under his feet. And he rode upon a cherub and did fly; yea he did fly upon the wings of the wind." Or, if you take the

simple, touching, pathetic tale of the death of Eli. Picture to yourselves that aged priest sitting by the wayside, trembling for the ark of God. First the tidings are brought to him: "Israel hath fallen before the Philistines." Still sadder—"There hath been also a great slaughter among the people." Sadder still the news following this: "And thy two sons, Hophni and Phinehas are slain." Oh, what a blow to the old man's heart! The two sons whom he had spoiled by his indulgence, and on account of whose sins the nation had been brought to ruin, are dead! Still the heaviest stroke of all is to come: "And the ark of God is taken." This stroke is too heavy for his aged heart: "Ichabod, the glory of God is departed," and the old man dies. Nothing attractive in the Bible! Where is there any tale more tragical than that?—any narrative so touchingly pathetic as that?

Or, sir, if you look at the figures which are brought before us in the Bible, the whole universe of God's creation seems, as it were, to be ransacked for simile, illustration, and metaphor, so that the grand and sublime truths pertaining to man's redemption may be revealed and developed in all their attractiveness and fullness to the mind of man.

Or take, if you please, the subjects and characters discussed and presented. Shakspeare and Scott have been exalted because of the rich variety of characters and subjects they present; but, sir, how meagre is the variety presented in their works compared with the variety presented to us in the Bible! Where can you find pictures upon which the pencils of the greatest artists can be better employed than within the lids of that book? Begin with the progenitors of our race, the murdered Abel and the banished Cain. Then we have the wicked but mighty men before the flood, among whom Enoch "walked with God" until he "was not, for God took him." Then we have Noah and his sons. Then we have the line of patriarchs, with the many interesting scenes connected with their histories. Abraham, sitting in his tent door on the plains of Mamre, or on Mount Moriah, before he offered up his son Isaac. burial of Sarah, or the death of Rachel; or Moses on Mount Sinai; or the wanderings of the Israelites in the wilderness. Or come down to later times, and take the prophets; take Isaiah, with his glorious visions and prophetic rapture; take Jeremiah in his dungeon; take Ezekiel, with his mystic seals; take Nehemiah, rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem and the sepulchres of his fathers; take Daniel and his companions. Aye, come down to New Testament times, and take that grand group of spiritually minded women,—the Marys, and all of like spirit; and, grandest of all, the central figure in all that picture, the Lord Jesus Christ, the glory of the Bible, as well as its Author and Master. Well might the greatest artists of the past and of the present day seek for subjects for the canvas and the marble statue in that book. From that book we find Rembrandt, and Peale, and Poussin, and Reubens, and West, and all the great master artists, selecting the grandest materials upon which to exert the mightiest energies of their genius.

Yet, sir, we are told that this book is not attractive; that it is not a book "worthy the consideration of intelligent men"! Why, sir, it is the very marvel of literature. The child, poring over it, will grow old reading its pages; yet the old man, ripening for heaven, will become young again in its study. is the book which the soldier clasps to his heart when, dying upon the battle-field, he commits his soul to God; and it is, at the same time, the book to which the widow of that soldier turns for that consolation which the bereaved spirit needs. the book for men in all ages, in all climes, and in every period of human life. If the great writers of this enlightened nineteenth century were to bring to bear all their mighty energies, so that they might, as it were, bring forth a book as the result of their combined wisdom, a book which would go to the Englishman's castle and the Hottentot's kraal, a book which Dr. Kane could carry to the Arctic regions, and Dr. Livingston carry to the burning sands of Africa, where could we find, in the combined wisdom of the greatest masters of this or any other age, a book which could compare with that grand book whose authors, under the eye of God, were humble prophets and unlettered fishermen? Why, it is the marvel of all litera-It is the grandest book that any man of intelligence can possibly study. It ought to stand at the very head of all the books to which the attention of the young is directed.

There are other good books: Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress,

Baxter's Saints' Rest, Wilberforce's Works, if you please, and many others might be named. Good books; may they be scattered far and wide, like the leaves that strew the forest at the opening of winter. Yet, sir, if I were to have only one book, give me the Bible. These other books shine with a borrowed lustre; they are simply the planets revolving round the grand central sun of gospel truth. If I can have but one, give me the gem that shall shine as it were the crowning diamond on that lustrous brow.

Here, then, we bring forth this Bible as the very book that demands the study of intelligent men. And yet, sir, we have in this day those who would trample under their feet that Bible. The same writer to whom I have referred says, "The Bible has seen its day; its work is done." "Seen its day"! The man who thinks the time will ever come in the history of this world when the Bible will cease to be applicable to man, knows not the Bible nor his own nature. The Bible is as applicable to man in this day as it ever was. It is adapted to rich and poor, the learned and the unlearned, just as it was in the days of the Ethiopian, of "Lydia, a seller of purple," of the youthful Samuel, and even of the slave Onesimus. If, sir, we judge of the future by the past, during the last eighteen hundred years, I tell you that that book will never cease to be adapted to the wants of man everywhere. Since the day when John wrote it in his cell in Patmos, and when Paul preached it in his hired house at Rome, the Bible has gone forward, proving itself the noblest gift, next to the Son of God, the grandest and best, which a good and loving God has given to the children of men.

Well, then, might you say, sir, that no anniversary that shall take place this week can equal in magnitude and value that of the Society, which we are gathered here to-day to celebrate, because it is that book which reveals to us Jesus Christ and Him crucified. It is that book on which we plant, not only the standard of the Cross, but the liberties of our nation. It is the bulwark of our Sabbath; it is the grand bulwark of all that is dear and precious to the soul of man. Then, sir, ought it not to take the front rank among all the societies, religious or benevolent, that claim the attention of men in this day or in any day?

But, sir, time bids me draw my remarks to a close, as there

are others to follow. Let me say, sir, that this Society, notwithstanding its grand work in past years, has reason to look forward to still grander work and mightier victories in the future. This Bible distribution, sir, has won victories that outshine all the victories that are inscribed upon the scroll of fame; victories, sir, that shall outlast even this world, and shine brighter than the stars that will gleam to-night or the sun that irradiates this earth to-day; victories, sir, the influence of which shall never cease while this earth endures, and the record of which shall be found inscribed on the very throne of God, in letters of living light, with the names of the noble men who have founded this Society, and by whose energies, means and prayers, the Society has been enabled to carry forward its Christ-like work, and bless the world and the children of men.

Less than fifty years ago, one whose name is execrated, went through the Bible, he said, as an axeman would go through the forest, condemning the trees to be cut down. After he had gone through the Old Testament, through the prophets and apostles, he wrote: "I have cut them down. There they are. The priests may stick them into the ground again, but they shall never live." I say, less than fifty years have rolled round since he who wrote those words went to give in his account to God, 'the judge of all the earth, who shall do right.' prophets and apostles "cut down," sir? No, never! Since that day, the American Bible Society, with the British and Foreign Bible Society, has distributed those prophets and apostles by untold millions. Since that time, missionary societies have been organized in connection with every evangelical denomination, who have aided in the distribution of those Scriptures. The prophets and apostles "cut down"! No; they have been planted on the banks of the St. Lawrence and the Mississippi, and there they have taken root, and are growing and shedding their leaves of healing on multitudes within their reach. The prophets and apostles "cut down"! No, sir: they have been carried to the burning coasts of Africa, they have been carried away off to the Arctic regions, and there they have been planted and proven themselves congenial to the soil. They have been carried away to Hindostan, and there they have been shedding abroad their curative influence

over the superstitions that have blighted and fettered the minds of the people of those populous countries. The prophets and apostles "cut down"! No, sir; they have been carried to the various islands that stud the Pacific, and there they have proven themselves adapted to the soil and to the people. The prophets and apostles "cut down"! No, sir, never! They are only today going down deeper and deeper, sending out roots and taking firmer hold of the ground everywhere, growing taller and mightier, aspiring, as it were, like lofty mountains, to pierce the clouds, their branches spreading far and wide, and their leaves dropping for the healing of immortal souls, the glory of Christ, and the salvation of the world.

May this Society start afresh here to-day, knowing that they are engaged in God's work; and let the clouds come as they may, let infidelity do its worst, let "Liberal Christianity," misnamed, do its worst, let all the powers of hell combined do their worst, the Bible will stand, will grow, will rise up like a moral lighthouse, disseminating gospel light over the darkened regions about. The Bible will, as it were, rise like the towering trees of the forest, braving the fiercest winds that may blow, because in that Bible the Author has declared, "The word of our God shall stand forever."

# ADDRESS OF REV. GEORGE S. HARE, D.D.

Mr. President,—Man has before him a destination sublime beyond conception, glorious beyond thought. He is immortal. Yet he is weak, ignorant and prone to evil. How little does he know by nature of himself, his duty, or his God! The old philosophies, crude, contradictory and confused, tell the story. Pagan nations of all ages, from the beginning until now, repeat it; civilization takes it up, and confirms it. See how the race tends naturally to evil and to sin. Yet, as I said, before this race immortality is set. It has a father, and its father is God. He created us, and has set immortality before us. What should we expect of this parent who has created a race for immortality but that he would come forth and instruct us, and teach us how to attain immortality? Is not our Father in Heaven bound by a parental interest to His offspring on earth? He has enriched

us with the divine gifts of reason and of conscience, and He has promised us immortality, yet he knows that we are weak and If we had no Bible, we should expect one; if we had no revelation, we should look for one; we should look for it by reason of our conscious immortality, and of our very ignorance and weakness. We have observed the means by which God carries on and helps forward the intelligence of the world. It is by teaching. We do not acquire our knowledge chiefly from observation and reflection on things around us; it is by the teaching of other intelligences more advanced than ourselves, of the wise and good of the present, and of all past ages; these are our chief helps. Were the words of wisdom, that have come down to us from the past, condemned henceforth to silence, were the wise and learned forbidden any more to communicate information, the mass of mankind would remain in the ignorance of Shall we be taught by other intelligent minds, and not by our Father, whose intelligence is perfect? I have seen it suggested that the reason why God ordinarily communicates light from superior to inferior minds, is that He may awaken tender and interesting relations among men, that He may cherish our sense of dependence upon, and interest in, each other, and thus bind us together by generous sentiments. It is thus we come to feel an interest in each other's principles and affections, to recognize the bonds of thought, and feeling, and thus realize, as we could in no other way, the tie of a common nature. our Father seek to bind us to each other and not to Himself; and shall not the same means accomplish the same ends? When He comes forth then as our teacher, when He breaks through all reserve and distance, speaking to us in our own language, in the very accents which human love and friendship employ, He adopts means clearly calculated to win our hearts, and fasten our minds on Himself.

But look again at your own soul; look around you at the souls of others; see if there are not wants there, deep wants, that are not met by the teachings and influences of earth. What a vast and wonderful disproportion between what the soul conceives, and what it finds, in the present state! What ideas of happiness and excellence are constantly springing up that it cannot realize now, what feelings of unrest in its present condition,

what dissatisfaction with all of light and happiness that this world can afford! Do you say that these wants are but feebly manifested in the majority of men? Admit that multitudes are so much engrossed with outward things that they cannot and will not interpret their own nature; but there are some, thank God, who are more true to their nature, who are not wholly taken up with outward things, and, being more true to their nature, should be regarded as its best representatives. These feel painfully their present condition. They long for clearer light. They pant to rise to a spotless virtue, and to a high moral power. For such, there is no resource but in God, and no help but in a direct revelation from Him.

These are not accidental wants and caprices that cannot well be understood. They are deep and enduring desires, and have been reproduced, in one form and another, in all ages. appear in the works of genius; they burn on the pages of all history; their fires animate the loftiest minds; they are implanted by God, and they lead us to expect their gratification; that in answer to their call He will come forth, and instruct and aid us. And agreeably to this expectation, we find that God has become the teacher of men. He has not left His children without light and guidance, nor Himself "without a witness in the world;" but He has embalmed in one precious volume, which our eyes can see, and our hands can handle, more of His own infinite perfections than He has spread abroad elsewhere over the whole creation,—enough to teach us the way of virtue and of duty, and to satisfy the deepest, holiest longings of our immortal nature.

This, then, is our Bible, Mr. President, the book in which God instructs man, shows him immortality, teaches him how to provide and prepare for it, shows him the path of duty, and peace and virtue, and by the help which flows through it, teaches him how to walk in it.

In all our estimates of the Bible, we are not to forget that it is unlike any other book or system of doctrine in the world. It has God for its author. Other books have been written, as the preceding speaker has suggested, which, as the production of a genius and intellect merely human, have been truly wonderful. They have borne our minds aloft, and set our hearts on fire, and

have thrilled the souls of men from generation to generation; but these books are nothing beside the Bible. We can conceive of books more wondrous than any that have been written except the Bible. I am sure there might be philosophies more profound than Locke's or Bacon's, poetry more sublime than Homer's, or Milton's, allegories more powerful for good, and more beautiful, than even Bunyan's. I have somewhere met a suggestion as to what commotion would be excited in the world if Michael, or Gabriel, for instance, were to appear among men, as an author. How eagerly should we rush for any volume, no matter about its subject, which should come to us, duly attested, as a fair specimen of angelic genius and intelligence! Who can doubt that it would surpass all human productions in the grandeur of its conception, and the power of its thoughts; that it would sway the opinions, and mould the judgments of men, and dwell upon the earth hereafter, as one of its mightiest But such a book would be nothing beside the teachers? Bible. God himself has appeared in the world as an author. It is not human genius that kindles; it is not human intellect that sparkles, in the Bible; it is the genius and the intellect of the Almighty. Other books are human, this book is divine. Other books speak to us as man would speak; this book is the You shall take another book and read it, voice of God. and it may make an impression on your intellect. the production of a superior mind, doubtless it will impress your life; but you shall take the Bible, and read it, and carefully ponder it, and it will transform your soul. The mind that kindled,—the divine light that gave it being,—burns and lives in it forever. Other books make an impression upon us, according to the mental and moral power of the author, and his sympathy with our wants. The man who writes the book is in the book, and it is the power of the man's soul that gives the book its power over us. When God puts His power into a book, what should we expect but that it will kindle and transform all The power of the divine mind comes down in it upon The great heart of God throbs through it, the human intellect. and our hearts feel its pulsations; and, above all, the Divine Being is revealed in such sympathy with our wants, in such tenderness for our sufferings, in such compassion for our sins,

that we cannot close our minds and hearts to it, and reject its teachings. If we give it a foothold, it will conquer. ber not many years ago there came to my study, one morning, a gentleman whom I had never met before. Said he: "I have recently become a member of your congregation. I am just home from Europe, and I am perplexed and distressed in my mind as to whether the Bible is the Word of God. I have consulted various authorities; I have met men abroad who ought to know, and asked them; and now can you give me any light upon this subject?" "Well," I said, "my friend, the testimony that proves the authenticity of revelation is abundant. I will lend you some books." And so he went into my study, and gathered a whole armful of books that should confirm the authenticity of the Scriptures, took them away and read them. He came back and said: "I have read these books, and I am no wiser than before. I stand just where I did. I want to know if this Bible is the Word of God." Said I: "Have you read it?" "Not carefully; because I want to know first whether it is the Word of God." Said I: "Read it! Read it! Go home, read it carefully, and after you have read it carefully, come . back again, and tell me if it is the Word of God." So he went home, read his Bible, and came back by-and-by, and said he: "That is God's Word; it has transformed my soul; it has made me a new creature in Christ Jesus. I know it is the Word of The Divine mind came down unaided upon his human understanding, and conquered and overwhelmed him.

You shall take the Bible to the most depraved and degraded among men, and if he will read it with an open mind, carefully and thoughtfully, it shall lift him out of his degradation, and it shall send him forth to walk the earth in all the dignity of goodness until translated to heaven he shall shine at God's right hand forevermore. It has done this over and over; it has gone into households where wretchedness reigned, where sin had cast abroad its bitter influence, and blotted all bright hopes to darkness, where despair sat scowling with sullen features and gnawing at bleeding hearts, and it has transformed them into the abodes of peace, and joy and heavenly rapture. It has gone to hearts burdened with affliction, and taken their grief away. It has stolen the sting from bereavement, and dried the tears of

sorrow. It has lifted the dying from the gulfs of despair, and placed them on mounts of heavenly rapture. That is what our Bible has done. This is the book in which God appears to mankind as an author, and makes known his mind and will. Of all the wonders that our eyes have ever seen, the most wonderful is this book whose author is Almighty God.

I have spoken of humanity's need to come in direct contact with the Great Teacher in his chosen revelation to man, its need to meet him face to face without anything of human We all feel that. I intervention, or human interpretation. want to know what He says in that book to my particular soul; you want to know what he says to your particular soul. We are willing to hear the preacher. We want to know what scholars have written; we are thankful to the wise and learned and devoted men who have spent their lives in opening. this book to us; but we are more thankful that the book is ours, that we can read it for ourselves. We have wants that are peculiar to our constitution and our nature. We know that human conditions are as varied as the leaves of the forest, and we want to go to this book, and find what is adapted to our peculiar nature, and very peculiar circumstances and conditions in it. We know that God has given us faculties like His own, and that He has made us accountable, and there may be something in it that shall escape us if we do not personally search it; and somehow we feel that when we go to this book, its omniscient, omnipresent Author will give us exactly what we need. That is one result of the Bible's power, and of the estimation in which it is held to-day. This meeting is no illustration of the value men place upon the Bible; not at all. all this great city of Boston thinks the Bible can take care of See that mother. She sends her daughter out to begin itself. life, and she puts among her wedding gifts, as the richest of her offerings, the Bible. She knows, that if she will read that Bible, and ponder its teachings, it will make her a faithful wife, it will make her a true mother, and will bless her household in coming generations. The father, sending his son out to seek his fortune, gives him, as the richest treasure, the book of God, because he knows it will guard him, that it will stand as a sentinel by his path, and be a safe-guard around him in all the

many a young man has been saved amid the temptations of a great city, amid all the perils and dangers of his youth, by this Word of God, speaking to him when he could hear no other voice! How many a sailor on the broad sea has read it, and been brought nearer to Jesus, and made a new man through its power.

We should not forget again, sir, that while the Bible is ready to speak to everybody, and while it has at its back the Author of all our blessings and of all our hopes, there are multitudes in the world who can be reached by no other instrumentality, and can be spoken to by no other voice than the voice of God, which speaks through it to men. The missionary cause is the great perplexity of the Church at this day—the unconverted millions that swarm on heathen shores, the millions upon millions that are never reached by the teachings of our missionaries, nor, as yet, appear to be affected by the prayers of the Church. I do believe, sir, that the Bible, unaided by human lips or voice, is to do more for the salvation of those heathen millions than all living men. I heard one of the dignitaries of your city in a recent meeting, turn round to a clergyman who was sitting behind him and say, "The ministers are well enough." Well, sir, the missionaries are well enough. Missionaries do a great many good things, but a missionary goes and takes his stand on a heathen shore, and is ready to die, and go down to his grave, before he is prepared to go to work. Thus we send them out, and bury them, rank after rank, hundreds after hundreds, and they scarcely save a heathen apiece. But wherever you can find a reading people, (and there are a great many such in heathen lands,) if you will give them this pure and simple Word of God translated into their own language, and get them to read it, it has power to redeem and to save them. It may not do its work instantaneously, but its influence will be felt, and will spread wider and wider until it shall redeem the millions on the darkest shores of heathenism. Only last evening, Mr. Butler, a returned missionary from India, said, in my pulpit, that the choicest convert to Christianity in India, while he was there, a man of scholarship and learning, now a preacher of the Gospel in that land, was led to Christ from reading the New Testament put into his hands

by a missionary. Nor is it yonder, alone, that the Bible is to do its work. Look around here in our own land and see what multitudes of men and women there are whom we cannot reach with the voice of the human teacher, whom we can only reach by the living voice of God in this Word of Life. You shall go into any of our great cities, and there you shall find multitudes upon multitudes of human beings, who speak not a single word of our English language; to whom we cannot go with a solitary syllable of our teaching outside of what is printed in their own tongue. There are great houses, crowded from garret to cellar, there are streets crowded with these crowded houses; there are whole wards crowded with these crowded streets; with men and women fresh from lands of despotism, and infidelity and crime,—that class of patriots many of whom have "left their country for their country's good." Invite them to your churches, and they cannot understand you if they come, and they would not come if they could understand you. Invite their children to your Sunday-schools, and you cannot teach them if you can get Only the Bible can reach them. Let them tear up a few copies; let them burn a few more; keep sowing the seed of God's Word among them; turn these Bibles, printed in their own tongues, into these houses until they cannot get rid of them. By and by, they will read them, and when they read them, the Divine voice, so much mightier than any human voice, will speak through these pages, will presently touch one heart and then another heart, and God, the living God, who lives not only yonder in the heavens, and reigns upon his throne on high, but who lives in every printed word of this Book of Life, God, the living God, will transform them by his power, and save them unto Himself. Sir, we want to give the Bible to everybody, because everybody needs it, and it has a voice for every human soul.

# ADDRESS OF SAMUEL ELIOT, ESQ.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:—I shall detain you but a short time, at this late hour. The work of this Society, the distribution of the Bible, like every other work for God, has helps and hindrances, at every time, and among every class of

men. Some are temporary; they appear here or there; they come up in one generation or in another; they seldom last from one to another; they seldom endure beyond a few years, and then disappear, perhaps to reappear again in some changed form, though in unchanged substance. There are other helps and hindrances which are not temporary, which belong to all ages and classes, to all countries and all circumstances; and I suppose that the helps or the hindrances, on one side or the other, which are not temporary, are those which exert the widest influence upon the work of such a Society as this.

Now, to take them together, and to regard them in their effect alike upon the giver and the receiver of the Bible, they may all be summed up in two words—human nature. It is in human nature itself that the Bible Society must find at once the strongest helps and the strongest hindrances in its work.

It finds in human nature those hindrances which arise from the very constitution of our being. Our body, with all its appetites, rises up against the Word of God and rejects it. Our mind, with all its aspirations, all its hopes and fears, its questionings, doubts and denials, stands up against the Bible and rejects it. And, stranger than all, our spirit, with all its aspirations towards the infinite implanted in it, all its yearnings towards the unseen and eternal,—this spirit, freighted with errors, burdened with stains and sins, this, too, rises up and rejects the Bible. Against these facts, it is vain for the Bible Society, it is vain for any man who wishes to do good to his fellow beings, to shut his eyes. Human nature says to every one of us, "Love thyself." The Bible says, "Love thy neighbor." Human nature, struggling amid all its doubts and all its efforts after selfish ends, says, "My will be done." The Bible says, "Thy will, oh God, be done." How is it possible that between a nature like this and a book like that, there should not be a hostility that sometimes seems to be irreconcilable?

It would be irreconcilable, if human nature were left to itself. It would be absolutely beyond the power of man to accept the Word of God, if he were left to himself. He has not been left to himself. Our Lord and Master has come down into the midst of us, has taken our form upon Him, has clothed His mind and spirit in the robes of humanity; and He has pleaded with every

one of us, in the past, and pleads with every one of us now, in this present hour, against our own nature, and in behalf of the Word of His Father and our Father. It is only through Jesus Christ that the Bible can find acceptance among men.

And yet, on the other hand, no one need hesitate to say, that in this human nature, with all its perversities, all its infirmities, there are not only hindrances but helps to the distribution of the Of all the desires implanted in us as a race, as well as Bible. individuals, of all the desires working in this world, two stand forth as the most powerful in their action upon human history. One is the desire for progress, the other the desire for unity. That instinct in these hearts of ours which leads us to look for better things every year and every generation, is an instinct that was planted there by Him who made us, and it leads us all, it leads the whole race of man, civilized or uncivilized, on and on, to further and further horizons, and to loftier and loftier peaks, in our ascent from that which is imperfect to that which is perfect and complete. And so the desire for unity is an instinct which God gave us. It leads us as it has led us here to-day. Men of different religious views, men who are probably actuated by very widely differing motives, in their daily lives, are drawn here within these walls because they like to meet one another, and find out that the points on which they agree are not only more important but more numerous than those on which they disagree. Thus the desire of unity works through the universe. It leads nations, long time discordant, to come together in new national bonds; it prevents the rupture of nations by fratricidal war; it creates a new code of law, and refers to that the questions that once could be decided only by the sword. It brings all men into what is now called not only "unity," but "solidarity;" as if the different particles of which different individuals, different communities and different races are composed, might find cohesion and absolute unification in one common interest and one common hope. That desire, which works everywhere, was never so strong as it is to-day.

Now, what is the Bible? If it is not the book of progress, what is it? It begins with man in his ideal state, created in God's image; and as soon as that image is obliterated, it sets him forth on a path leading up from the deep abyss that lay at

the gate of Paradise, until it rises bigher and higher, and brings him at last within sight of the celestial city. From Genesis to Revelation, all is progress. Even when the chosen race of the Old Testament seems to sink; even when the Lord and Saviour, the Crucified, is rejected; at every step, no matter how dark, how difficult, how despairing, we can see the light beyond. The fall is that there may be a rise; the decline is that there may be an uplifting; and even the untold agonies of the crucifixion are that they may precede a resurrection.

This Bible, too, is the book of unity. It tells us that Jew and Gentile are not two, but one; it tells us that all races are of one blood; no matter where they dwell, no matter what their form or what their hue, they are all of one blood, made by one God, redeemed by one Saviour. The Bible opens with the sword that waves between the fugitives from Eden and that home to which they cannot return; it closes with the harps of heaven, and crowns cast down before the Throne of God, and the "multitudes that no man can number," gathered beneath that throne, with one prayer, one thought, to give Him glory "who sits upon the throne, and to the Lamb forever." Where, in any work of man, where, in any desire of the human heart, expressed or unexpressed, is there such unity as this? The Bible, as the book of progress and the book of unity, meets the two strong desires with which not only men as men, but men as races, men as ages, have been stirred, and it will continue to meet those desires until there is a new creation.

Here, then, between human nature and the Bible, as reconcilable through Jesus Christ, there is no essential irreconcilability. To the desires which are deepest and strongest in our hearts, whether they relate to this life or to the life to come, the Bible, and the Bible only, makes response. In that central fact we may find the strongest helps to a work like that of this Society.

This Society, as I understand, distributes the English Bible. That Bible was printed in blood and tears. The first man who printed the New Testament, William Tyndale, spent thirteen years in exile, and died at the early age of fifty-two, a martyr at the stake; his last words, "Lord, open thou the King of England's eyes." Coverdale, by whom the first Bible as a whole

was printed, fled from his native country and closed his days in exile, that he might escape the death which waited for him at home. Rogers, who brought out the Bible which is at the basis of our authorized version, died, the first to suffer under the persecutions of Mary. And so through all the list (it might be made much longer) we follow the figures, from age to age, far down the vista which history opens, and see them one by one giving their lives, as well as their labors, that this book, the English Bible, might be given to mankind; and to this day the English Bible is the Bible of Bibles. No version in any European or Oriental or Autochthonous language anywhere compares with it. Its language rises to the very heights of the sublimity of the Scriptures; it sinks to the very lowest notes of tenderness and sympathy with which the Scriptures are filled. From one end of the scale to the other, there is no chord which the English Bible does not touch, and, touching, wake to immortal harmony. As the poet said:

— "Thou hast great allies,
Thy friends are exultations, agonies,
And love, and man's unconquerable mind."

A Bible that has such a history, that looks back through such scenes, can venture to look forward. It stands a monument,—no, it is not a monument; it is too full of life to be compared with monuments; it stands an orb, full of light, full of warmth, full of fire, and its beams, as they are shed upon the waters and carried with the vibrations of the waves, far and far away beyond our shores to the shores of futurity, are like the path of the just, "the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day."

Mr. President, the Society which undertakes the distribution of the Bible is as certain to do good, and as certain to meet with the sympathy of men, and with the blessing of Almighty God, as any work in which mankind is at this moment engaged.

The Report of the Trustees was then accepted, and the public services were closed with the benediction, by Rev. Dr. Blagden.

Thanks were voted to the speakers for their Addresses, and a copy of the same requested for publication, when the Society adjourned.

# CONSTITUTION.

# CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AS ORIGINALLY FORMED PREVIOUS TO ITS INCORPORATION.

July 13, 1809.—The Hon. Theophilus Parsons, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Plan for carrying into effect the object of this Association, which being read from the Chair, was considered and debated by paragraphs, and was, with one amendment, accepted and adopted as follows, viz:—

# THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

- 1. The Bible Society is instituted for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments, to be distributed among all persons inhabiting within the State or elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others.
- 2. The Society shall be composed of all regularly settled clergymen of every denomination of Christians within the State, who shall, in writing, request to be members; of every person who shall subscribe to pay annually to the Treasurer a sum not less than two dollars, and who shall remain a member so long as he continues the payment of that sum; and of every person, who shall subscribe and pay to the Treasurer a sum not less than fifty dollars, he remaining a member during life, without being obliged to further contributions.

- 3. Subscriptions, for the purpose of ascertaining a competent number of members, shall be immediately opened, under the direction of the Committee appointed to report a plan for the organization of the Society. And as soon as fifty subscribers are obtained, notice shall be given by the Committee, and also of the time and place of the meeting of the Society.
- 4. The Society shall, on notice given as aforesaid, meet and choose by ballot, from among the members, a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who shall continue in office until the Society be incorporated, and until successors are chosen in their room; and they, together with eighteen other members to be elected by ballot at the same time, of whom six shall be clergymen and twelve shall be laymen, shall form a Board of Trustees.
- 5. The Trustees, or the greater part of them present at any meeting, of which public notice shall be given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, shall elect by ballot, from among the members of the Society, a Committee of three persons, to continue in office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees, who shall have the management of the fund, and the distribution of the books procured with it, subject and according to such regulations and directions, as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Trustees at any meeting held on public notice given as aforesaid; and the Treasurer shall pay the moneys in his hands to the order of the said Committee.
- 6. The Trustees shall apply to the Legislature for an Act to incorporate the Society, on the principles and for the purposes aforesaid, and with all reasonable powers necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this institution.
- 7. When the Society shall be incorporated, it shall meet, on regular notice given, for the due exercise of all the powers granted by the charter of incorporation.
- 8. If the Society fail of obtaining an incorporation, it shall again meet, on public notice given by the President, Treasurer, or Recording Secretary, to devise and adopt such further measures as may be necessary for preserving the institution, and for effecting the intentions of the members.

Agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution, the Trustees petitioned the General Court, and obtained the following

### ACT OF INCORPORATION.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ten. An Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Whereas, the persons hereafter named in this Act, together with many other citizens of this Commonwealth, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of raising a fund by voluntary contribution, to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others; and whereas, in order that the pious and laudable objects of said Society may be better carried into effect, and the charity of said Society more extensively diffused, they have, by their Committee, prayed for an Act of Incorporation.

SEC. 1. Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, That William Phillips, Esquire, the Rev. John Lathrop, D. D., the Rev. Joseph Eckley, D. D., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Eliphalet Porter, D. D., the Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D., the Rev. Thomas Baldwin, D. D., the Hon. William Drown, Francis Wright, Esq., the Hon. Isaac Parker, Hon. Peter C. Brooks, John Tucker, Esq., Joseph Hurd, Esq., Mr. Joseph Sewall, Redford Webster, Samuel Parkman, Joseph May, and Henry Hill, Esquires, the Rev. John Pierce, the Rev. Joseph S. Buckminster, and Mr. Samuel H. Walley, together with those, who have associated, and who may hereafter associate with them for the purposes aforesaid, be, and they hereby are incorporated into a Society, by the name of The Bible Society of Massachusetts.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the said William Phillips, and others above named, and their associates, shall be and remain a body corporate by the said name and title during the pleasure of the Legislature; and may have a seal which they may alter at pleasure; and the said Society shall be capable of taking and receiving from any persons disposed to aid the benevolent purposes of this institution any grants or devises of lands and tenements in fee simple, or otherwise and donations, bequests, and subscriptions of money, or other property to be used and improved for the purposes aforesaid.

- SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall be, and hereby are empowered to purchase and hold any real estate other than that, which may be given as aforesaid, provided the value of the whole estate, real and personal, of said Society, shall not exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.
- SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may sue and be sued, in their corporate capacity, and may appoint an agent or agents to prosecute and defend suits with power of substitution.
- SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the said Society may choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretaries, Trustees, and such other officers as they shall see fit, and may make and establish such rules and regulations, as to them shall appear necessary; provided the same be not repugnant to the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.
- Sec. 6. Be it further enacted, That William Phillips, Esq., be, and he hereby is authorized, by notification in any two of the newspapers printed in Boston, to appoint the time and place of the first meeting of said Society; at which meeting the said Society may appoint the time and place of their annual and other meetings, and the manner of notifying the same; may choose the officers aforesaid; may prescribe their duty, and may vest in the Trustees, the number of which may be determined by the said Society, but shall not exceed thirty, such powers, conformable to the principles of this institution, as shall be deemed necessary.—Approved by the Governor, February 15, 1810.

#### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year Eighteen Hundred and Sixty-five. An Act in addition to an Act to incorporate the Bible Society of Massachusetts.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- SEC. 1. The Corporation heretofore established by the name of THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS, shall hereafter be known by the name of the Massachusetts Bible Society, and by that name shall have, hold and enjoy all its rights and privileges and be subject to all its liabilities and obligations to the same extent as if its name had not been changed.
  - SEC. 2. The said Society may publish, procure, purchase, circulate and distribute Bibles and Testaments in any other than the English language, in the same manner and to the same extent as they are now authorized by law to distribute Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches in New England, any thing in the Act incorporating the said Society to the contrary notwithstanding.—Approved by the Governor, February 27, 1865.

# BY-LAWS.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, May 26, 1851, the following By-Laws were adopted:—

#### ARTICLE 1.

This Society is instituted for the purposes set forth in its Act of Incorporation, namely, "the raising a fund by voluntary contribution to be appropriated in procuring Bibles and Testaments of the version in common use in the churches of New England, for distribution among all persons inhabiting within the State and elsewhere, who are destitute of the sacred Scriptures, and who cannot be conveniently supplied without the aid of others."

#### ARTICLE II.

Every regularly settled clergyman, of any denomination of Christians in the State, may become a member of this Society by signifying his request in writing to that effect, to the Recording Secretary—who shall keep a record of all persons who shall so become members, in a book kept for that purpose.

#### ARTICLE III.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than two dollars annually, shall thereby become a member of the Society, so long as such payment is continued,—and the Treasurer shall keep a list of all such persons.

#### ARTICLE IV.

Every person who shall pay to the Treasurer not less than twenty dollars at one time shall thereby become a member of the Society for life, and shall be so enrolled, by the Recording Secretary.

#### ARTICLE V.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, fourteen Vice Presidents, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and eighteen Trustees and an Auditor. The President, Vice Presidents, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, shall each be ex-officio members of the Board of Trustees, and the Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of that Board. These officers shall all be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting.

#### ARTICLE VI.

The President shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and he, and also the Vice Presidents and Secretaries and Treasurer, shall perform the duties usually incumbent on such officers respectively.

#### ARTICLE VII.

The Trustees shall have the management of all the concerns of the Society, except the choice of such officers as by the Act of Incorporation is vested in the Society, and they shall prescribe the duties of all officers, direct the collection and appropriation of all funds and donations, and generally have and possess all the power and authority vested by the Act aforesaid in the Society. It shall be their duty, however, at every Annual Meeting, to make and lay before the Society a particular Report of all their doings, with all such documents and vouchers as may be asked for by any member, and such Report shall be had and considered before the Society shall proceed to the choice of Trustees, for the year then next ensuing.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the Monday preceding the last Wednesday in May in each year, and at this meeting it shall be competent to transact any business which the Society can lawfully do. Notice of this meeting shall be given by the Recording Secretary at least seven days before the holding thereof, by notice published in at least one newspaper in Boston.

#### ARTICLE IX.

Special meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the Trustees, of which notice shall be given in at least three newspapers published in Boston, and no business shall be transacted at such meeting, excepting that which is specified in the notice.

#### ARTICLE X.

The Trustees shall hold regular semi-annual meetings in March and September, in each year, and such other special meetings as they may direct, or as the President may at any time call. Five Trustees shall be a quorum to transact business.

#### ARTICLE XI.

The Trustees, at their first meeting after their election, annually, shall choose from their own body an Executive Committee, a Committee on Agencies, and a Committee on the Depository.

#### ARTICLE XII.

The Executive Committee shall have the management of the funds, and the gratuitous distribution of the books procured with them; the Committee on Agencies shall have the direction of all matters connected with the agencies of the Society, the appointment of all agents, subject to the approval of the Trustees, and the defining of their respective duties; the Committee on the Depository shall have the management of all matters connected with the Society's Depository for the sale of Bibles,—all of said Committees, at all times however, to be subject to the direction and control of the Trustees in all respects.

#### ARTICLE XIII.

These By-Laws may be repealed or amended at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose, by vote of a majority of those present.

## PRIVILEGES OF LIFE MEMBERS.

Each Life Member of this Society shall be allowed to receive from the Depository, annually, the value of one dollar in Bibles and Testaments.

N. B.—The above books will be delivered to members by personal application, or to their order; and they can be issued only for the *current*, not for *past* years.

# MEMBERS FOR LIFE,

BY THE PAYMENT OF TWENTY DOLLARS AND UPWARDS.

Abbe, Rev. Frederick R., Abington. Abbe, Mrs. Frederick R. Abbot, Charles H., Lowell. Abbott, Rev. Jacob J., Yarmouth, Mc. Aborn, John G., Wakefield. Adams, Elizabeth W., Derry, N. H. Adams, Frank N., Medway. Adams, John Clark, Hopkinton. *Adams, John Quincy, Quincy. Adams, Nehemiah, D. D., Boston. Adams, Stephen, West Medway. Adkins, Miss Mary J., South Deerfield. *Albree, John, Boston. *Albro, John A., D. D., Cambridge. Albro, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Albro, Miss Annie E. Alden, Almira S. C., Foxbero'. Alden, Russell, Campello. Alden, Miss Sarah B., Randolph. Alden, Miss Susan, Aldrich, Mrs. Mary B., IF estboro'. Allen, Mrs. Cyrus, Franklin. Allen, Rov. Nathaniel G., Wrentham. Allen, Richard H., Braintres. Ames, James S., Haverkill. Andrews, Artemas F., Fitchburg. Andrews, C. L., Boston. Andrews, George W., Dunvers. Andrews, Stephen, Gloucester. Andrews, W. T., Boston. Andrews, Thomas E., Holliston. Andrews, Walter H., Whitinsville. *Appleton, Samuel, Boston. *Appleton, William, " Archibald, Edward, Methuen. Armes, Miss Clara A., Campello. Armsby, Mrs. H. A., Whitinsville. Arnold, Susan O., Braintrec. Atwood, Mrs. Abby, Bergen, N. J. Atwood, Mrs. Elizabeth M., " Atwood, Edward S., Boston. Atwood, John W., Bergen, N. J. Babcock, Mrs. Nancy, Boston. Babcock, Rev. William R., Jamaica Plain. Babson, Miss Maria R., Gloucester. Bachelor, Mrs. Mary A., Whitinsville.

Bacon, Jacob, Gloucester. Pacon, Rev. James M., Essez. Bacon, Joseph N., Newton. Backus, Rev. Joseph W., Thomaston, C. Baker, Mrs. Eleanor J. W., Dorchester. Baker, Francis, Peabody. Baker, Susan S., Balmer, William, Jr., Whitinsville. Baldwin, Miss Josephine L., Lynn. Ball, Miss Elizaboth, Concord. Bancroft, Amasa, Gardner. Barber, Martin, Sherbern. Barber, Sally C., Barbour, Rev. William M., Bungor, Mc. Barbour, Mrs. Eliza A. *Bardwell, Lieut. Charles S., Whately. Barker, Hiram, Brighton. Bardeley, James, Whitinsville. Barnard, William F., Marlboro. *Barnes, William, Barnes, Zilpah, Henniker, N. H. Barrett, Nathan H., · Concord. Barrett, Miss Robecca M. Bartlett, Rev. Edward O., Providence, R. I. Bartlett, Mrs. Eleanor C., Plymouth. Bartlett, Thomas, Boston. Bassett, Honry, Newton. Bassett, Mrs. Lucretia C., Charlemont. Bassett, Sarah E., Newburyport. Batchelor, Miss Frances A., Whitinsville. Batchelder, John M., Holliston. Batchelor, Stephen F., Whitinsville. *Bayley, Robert, Newburyport. Beal, Alexander, Boston. Beal, Mrs. Louisa, Cohasset. Brals, Isaac N., Campello. Bean, Cyrus Beede, Dover, N. H. *Beane, Rev. Samuel, Norton. Bearse, Isaac, Natick. Bearse, Miss Olive II., Centreville. Beebe, James M., Boston. Beebe, Mrs. James M. 66 *Beebo, Charles E. " Beebe, Francos In " Beebe, Edward P. •6

Becke, Emily B.

46

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*Phillips, William, Boston. Pickard, Rev. Daniel W., Groveland. Pickering, Henry W., Boston. *Pierce, Rev. Charles H., Millbury. Pierce, Isaac T., Whitinsville. Pierce, Sylvester G., Winchester. *Pierpont, Rev. John, Medford. Pierson, Rev. Wm. Henry, Ipswick. Pike, John, D. D., Rowley. Plumb, Rev. Albert H., Chelses. Plumb, Joseph Dart, Plumer, Mrs. Martha H., Rowley. Plummer, Israel, Whitinsville. Pogue, Mrs. Joseph, Graften. Pollard, Joseph G., Wobura. Pollock, Miss Emma A., Whitinsville. Pond, Almira W., South Malden. Pond, John P., Besten. Pond, Mrs. Nancy, Medicay. Pond, William E., Wrentham. Pool, Solomon, Gloucester. Poor, Joseph, Peabody. Poor, Nathan H. " Porter, Samuel S., Winchester. Pratt, Cornelius, North Weymouth. Pratt, Galen, North Bridgewater. Pratt, Galen E. Pratt, Rev. George H., Hervard. Pratt, Norton, Braintres. Pratt, Phebe, Sherborn. Pratt, Maria L., Abington. Pratt, Philip W. Pratt, Zebulon, North Middleboro'. Pray, John J., Lowell. Prentice, Miss Julia, Grafton. Prentice, Marvel, Whitinsville. Prentice, James A. Prentiss, Luke, *Prescott, William, Boston. *Prince, Rev. J. M., Georgetown. Prince, Mrs. Sarah B., Quincy. Pritchard, William, Newburyport. Proctor, Henry H., Peabody. Proctor, Mrs. Lucy A., Gloucester. Proctor, Thoradike, Peabody. Puffer, Mrs. Josiah, Harvard. Quincy, Thomas D., Derckester. Quincy, Mrs. J. C. Quincy, Thomas D., Jr. " Rankin, Rev. J. Eames, Charlestown. Rankin, Mrs. Mary Ray, George W., Medway Village. Raymond, Helen S., Boston. Read, Miss Martha, East Abington. Reed, Miss Caroline G., Haverkill. Rood, Horaco, South Abington. Rice, Mrs. Agnes L., Boston. Rice, Edward, Weyland.

Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth C., Lawrence. Rice, Mrs. Henry A., Boston. Rice, Miss M. Augusta, Westbore'. Rich, Rev. Alonzo B., Beverly. Rich, Rev. A. Judson, Westminster. Rich, Mrs. Harriet L., Richards, Mrs. A. M., Bridgeport, Ot. Richards, James F., Campelle. Richardson, Benjamin P., Boston. Richardson, John W., Medway. Richardson, Luther, Winchester. Richardson, Miss Sarah E., Concord. Richardson, Stephen, W. Medway. Richardson, Sumner, Winchester. *Ritchie, Andrew, Jr., Boston. Robbins, Andrew, Groton. Robbins, Chandler, D. D., Boston. *Robbins, Edward H. Roberts, Rev. Jacob, East Medway. Roberts, Mrs. Mary A. Roberts, Mrs. Ruth, Manchester. Robertson, James, Peabody. Robinson, Charles W., Auburndale. Robinson, H. W., North Bridgewater. Robinson, Rev. Reuben T., Winchester. *Robinson, Mrs. Clara A. Rockwood, John, Groton. Rockwood, John T., Springfield. Rockwood, Miss Polly B., Askland. *Rogers, George, Boston. Rogers, George L., Newburyport. Rogers, Shubael G., Boston. *Rogers, Rev. William M. Russell, Sarah J., Framingham. Ryder, Marietta, Chatham. Safford, Rev. George B., Burlington, Vt. *Salisbury, Samuel, Boston. Sanford, Mrs. Adeline D., Medway Village. Sanford, Henry D., Bridgewater. Sanger, Edward G., Cambridgeport. Sargeant, James C., Oakkam. Sargent, Edmund, West Amesbury. *Sargent, Lucius M., Boston. Sargent, Samuel G., Methuen. *Bawtell, Mrs. Ephraim, Groton. Sawyer, George, Campello. Sawyer, Martha B., " Sawyer, Seth C., E. Rendolph. *Scudder, Charles, Boston. Scudder, Mrs. Sarah L. " Sears, Miss Hannah M., Askfield. Seaver, A. W., Northboro'. Seeley, Raymond H., D. D., Haverhill. Seeley, Mrs. Fanny B. Selfridge, Thomas O., Besten. Shattuck, Andrew, Groton. Shattuck, Mrs. Susan P. " Shaw, Mrs. Hannah, Besten.

Sheldon, Rev. Luther H., Jamesburgh, N.J.; Sheldon, Mrs. Sarah H. Shephord, Thomas, Wanchendon. Shiverick, Miss Maria L., Compelle. Siblay, Man Linnia M., Westboro'. *Bigourney, Andrew, Bester. Bigourney, Honry, Bimonds, Alvan, Skitlings, David N., Winchester. *Slack, Ruggles, Beston. Blafter, Rev. Edmund F. " Slafter, Mrs. Edmund F., Blooper, William C., Methuen. Small, Amos T., West Amesburg. Small, Mrs. Fidelia Poster, Millburg. Small, Samuel A. Small, Mrs. Sumner, Newton Centre. Smith, Mrs. Abby F., Concord. Smith, Heary F. Smith, Albert W., Boston. South, George P. Smith, Mrs. Lucy Jese, Bmith, Mrs. Clara J., Sunderland. Smith, E. B., Westfield. Smith, Rav. Edward P., Brooklya, N. Y. Bmith, Joel, W Astinaville. Smith, Jonathan. Smith, Warren N. " Smith, Mrs. Hattie J., Gloucceter. Smith, Mateon M., D. D., Newark, N. J. Smith, Mrs. Matson M. Smith, Norman, Greten. Smith, Mrs. Mary J. " Smith, Richard, Peabody. Smith, Mrs. Charlotte, *Smith, Samuel . Besten. Bmith, Mrs. Barab, Andover. Spow, Ambrese, South Hadley Falls. Snow, Mrs. Caroline, .duburndale. Snow, Mrs. Mark, Chatham. Boule, Henry M., South Abington. Southgute, Charles M., Ipowich. Southgate, Rov. Robert, Southgate, Miss Frances S. *Southgate, Mrs. Mary Frances, " Southworth, Mrs. Caroline M., Medway. Spaulding, Mrs. Charles A., Grofon. Specier, W. B., Boston. Spring, Mrs. Adela C., JFhittmoville. Stacy, Albert, Concord. Stanley, Exra C., Manchester. Stebbins, Rev. Milan C., Springfold. Stevens, Norman C., Newton, Stevene, Mrs. E. M. Storons, Samuel, Gioucester. *Btoddard, Lowis T , Breekling. Stone, Andrew L., D. D., Sen Francisco, Cal. Stone, Mrs. Matilda P.

Stone, Martha A., Nepton Centre. Storre, Eunice C. Braintree. Storre, Richard S., D. D. " Stowell, Mrs. Abby Hubbard, Concord. Stowell, Cyrus A., South Deerfield. Stowell, D. W., Waltham. Strong, Rav. Eleathan E. « Strong, Rev. J. C., St. Charles, Minnesota. Strong, Mrs. J. C. Studiey, Austin, East Abington. Studioy, Edward A., Boston. Sugden, Miss Mary, Braintree. Summer, Rev. Charles B., Monaga. Sumner, Mrs. H. H., Feziore' Swazey, Mrs. Prances A., Lynn. Swett, Samuel W., Boston. Swift, Miss Lottie H., Andoper. Switzer, Rav. Christopher J., Provincetown. Taft, Mrs. Elizabeth E., Whatimeville. Taft, Muss Emily A. Taft, Gustavas E. Talt, Mrs. G. E. Taft, S. Jennie, Taft, Jacob, Uzbridge. Tapley, Gilbert, Dennau. Tappan, John, Boston. Tarr, William J., Gloucester. Taylor, Mrs. Mulanau, Winchester. Toule, Rev. Albert K., Milton. Taule, Mrs. Comelia C. 44 Temple, Mark M., Randing. Tenney, Mrs. Mary P., Winchester. Terry, Rev. James P., Stuth Weymouth. Thacher, Mrs. Anna B., Hyde Park. Thacher, Miss Calista C., Attichere'. Thacher, John, Thacher, Mrs. Sugan C. Thasher, William T., Hyde Park. Thacher, Susan B., Pertland, Me. "Thatcher, blary Ludlow, Middlebore's Thayer, Amusa, Braintree. Thayer, E. P. E. Thayer, Ira, "Thayer, Mrs. Lills, " Theyer, Rev. J. Henry, . Indover. Thayer, Mrs. Martha C. " Thayer, Oliver, Thayer, Mrs. Japo, Boston. Theyer, Robert H., New York City. Thayer, Sorah H., Braintres. Thompson, Mrs. Averick F. Warehous. Thompson, Mrs. Emily B., Concord. Thompson, Everett A., West Americany. Thompson, Samuel A. Thompson, Mrs. Anne Elizu, " Thompson, George E., North Bridgemeter. Thompson, Stephen, Winchester. Thurston, Bev. Richard B., Stamford, Ct.

Tobey, Miss Jennie E., Whitinsville. Tolman, Rev. Richard, Tewksbury. Tolman, Rev. Samuel H., Wilmington. Torrey, Miss Elizabeth L., South Weymouth. Torrey, James, North Weymouth. Torrey, Willard, Groton. Towne, William B., Brookline. Trask, Charles II., Jr., Manchester. Trask, Mrs. A. H. Trask, Lizzie R., Gloucester. Trask, Samuel, *Peabody*. Trask, Samuel P., Danvers. Tribou, Samuel, North Bridgewater. Trowbridge, Mrs. Asa, Brighton. Trufant, Harriet Andrews, Abington. Trufant, Philip P. Trufant, Walter Ezra, *Tucker, Rev. Elijah W., Lebanon, Ct. Tucker, Mrs. Hannah W., Dorchester. *Tucker, Jesse, Milton. Tucker, Mrs. Mary R., Buston. *Tucker, Nathan, Milton. Tucker, Mrs. Nathan, " Tucker, John A., Dorchester. Tucker, William, Tucker, William W., Boston. Tufts, Charles, Andover. Turner, Miss Alice Montgomery, Randolph. Tuttle, Miss Martha E., Concord. Tuttle, Miss Sarah, Wayland. Tuttle, Thomas S., Littleton. Twichell, John M., Fitchburg. Tyler, Frank H., Bradford. Tyler, Jerome W., Boston. *Underhill, Rov. John W., N. Amkerst. Upton, Mrs. Lucy, Peabody. Upton, Moses T., Salem. Vose, William H., Fitchburg. Wadsworth, Mrs. Lucy, Milton. Wadsworth, William, Boston. Wakefield, Miss C., Reading. Waldron, Rev. Daniel W., East Weymouth. Wales, Erastus, East Randolph. Wales, Miss Mary Ann, Boston. Walker, Ellen A., East Abington. Walker, Miss Frances A., Haverkill. Walker, Rev. Geo. F., Little Compton, R. I. Walker, John S., East Medway. Walker, Mrs. John S. " Walker, Lovi, Bridgewater. Walker, Moses, Haverhill. Walker, Nathaniel, " Walker, Robert G., Boston. Walker, William M., East Abington. *Walley, Samuel H., Boston. Walley, Samuel H. Ward, Artemas, Ward, Samuel,

Ward, Miss H. L. II., Lakeville. Ward, Rev. James W. Ward, Mrs. Caroline L. Ward, Miss Susan H. Ward, Salem T., Winchester. Warner, John, Newton. Warner, William, South Deerfield. Warren, George W., Boston. *Warren, Mrs. Diantha A., Lynn. *Warren, Mrs. Maria, Grafton. *Warren, Nehemiah, Stow. Warren, Francis W. Warren, Jonas, *Warren, Lucinda, *Warren, William A., Winchester. Washburn, William B., Greenfield. Washburn, Mrs. William B. " Watkins, Miss Abby A., Gloucester. Weeks, Mrs. L. Caroline, North Dana. Welch, John, Boston. Weld, James, Wells, Mrs. Martha D., Northboro'. Wellman, Joshua W., D. D., Newton. Wendell, Mrs. Catharine, Boston. Wentworth, Albert, Haverkill. Wentworth, Lewis, Bridgeweter. West, Peleg D., Whitinsville. Wheeler, Abijah R., East Medway. Whitcomb, Lewis, East Randolph. *Whitcomb, Reuben, Harvard. *Whitcomb, Reuben, Jr. Whitcomb, Mrs. Abby F. *Whitcomb, Mrs. Louisa D. " Whitcomb, Miss Mary M. White, Aaron L., Medway. White, Cornelius, South Randolph. *White, James, Boston. White, Joel, Uzbridge. White, Josiah, Peterskam. White, Mrs. Mary C., Phillipston. White, Newton, East Randolph White, Phineas A., Whitinsville. White, Thomas, East Randolph. Whitin, Arthur P., Whitinsville. Whitin, Charles P. " Whitin, Charles E. Whitin, Mrs. Catharine II. Whitin, Edward, Whitin, James F. " Whitin, Mrs. Patience H. Whitin, Paul, Whitin, Mrs. Sarah J. " Whitin, Mrs. Sarah R. " Whiting, Lemuel, Groton. Whitman, Charles, Lowell. Whitmarsh, Mary, South Abington. Whitmore, Annie Maria, Lynn. Whitney, Charles H., Cambridgeport.

Whitney, Dora S., South Groton. Whitney, Frederick, Westminster. Whitney, Helen J., Stow. Whitney, Isaac S., Gloucester. Whitney, Israel, Boston. Whitney, Mrs. Permelia V., Petersham. Whitney, Richard D., Springfield. Whitney, Mrs. Susanna, Rutland. *Wigglesworth, Thomas, Besten. Wilbur, Joseph, Taunton. Wild, Daniel, Boston. Wilder, Hattie W., South Acton. Willcox, Rev. William H., Reading. Williams, Miss Amelia P., Sunderland. Williams, Rev. C. H. S., Concord. Williams, Mrs. C. H. S. Williams, Rov. Edward F., Whitinsville. Williams, Miss Elizabeth C., Grotm. Williams, Miss Mary D., Greenfield. Williams, S. H., Fozboro'. Williams, Thomas S., Auburndale. Wilson, Rev. Thomas, Stoughton. Wing, John C., Lowell. Wines, Rev. C Maurice, Brookline. Winslow, Pelham, East Abington. Winter, David Baker, Northbridge.

Winthrop, Robert C., Boston. *Winthrop, Thomas L. Withington, Otis, Brockline. Wolcott, Mrs. Elizabeth, Peshody. Wolcott, William, Woodbury, Simon J., Sutton. Wood, Mrs. Abijah, Westboro'. Wood, Cyrus K., Gardner. Wood, Elizabeth C., Fozboro'. Wood, Joseph W., Whitineville. Wood, Mrs. E. S. Wood, Mrs. Samuel F., Chelmsford. Wood, Mrs. Susan, Groton. Wood, Theodore S., Westwinster. Woods, Miss Abbie Wheeler, Malden Woods, Frank Austin, New Braintree. Woods, Joseph Wheeler, Boston. Woods, Samuel H. Woodward, Ebenezer, Newton. Woodward, Miss Emily, Newton U. Falls. Worcester, Miss Sallie, Brighton. *Worthington, William, Boston. Wright, George L., Mitteneague. Wyman, Charles, Lancaster. Wyman, Rufus, Boston. Wyman, William G., Fitchburg.

## FORM OF A BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY.

I give, devise and bequeath, to the Massachuserrs Bible Society, incorporated in the year Eighteen hundred and ten, the sum of to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of the Society.

LETTERS relating to Agencies, or to the general interests and policy of the Society, should be directed to Rev. Daniel Butler, Recording Secretary, 15 Cornhill, Boston.

Remittances for Books, donations from churches and individuals, and orders for Books, should be addressed to S. T. FARWELL, Agent, 15 Cornhill, Boston.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPTS.

## Receipts from April 1, 1868, to April 1, 1869.

#### BARNSTABLE COUNTY.

Barnstable, Centreville, South Congregational Society, (1 L.	. <b>x</b> .)	\$ 20	<b>57</b>
Chatham, Congregational Church and Society,	•	7	00
Dennis, West, Mrs. Anna Collins,	•	5	00
" South, Miss Susan H. Nickerson,	•	1	00
Falmouth, First Congregational Church and Society, .	•	16	00
Wood's Hole, Mr. Braddock Gifford,	•	2	00
	•	\$ 51	<b>57</b>
BRISTOL COUNTY.			
Mansfield, Methodist Episcopal Church, (A. B. S.)	•	<b>\$</b> 3	61
" Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,	•	11	00
Norton, Trinitarian Cong. Ch. and Society, (1 L. M., A. B. 8	s.)	39	<b>50</b>
	•	<u> </u>	
		\$ 54	11
ESSEX COUNTY.			
Amesbury, Miss Augusta Dearborn, deceased,	•	•	00
and Salisbury, Union Evangelical Church and Soc	ciety,		30
Andover, South Church,	•	62	
" West Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	•	23	
" Prof. J. H. Thayer,	•	50	
" North, Methodist Episcopal Church,	•		10
Beverly, Rev. E. W. Harrington, (1 L. M.)	•		00
Bradford, Congregational Church and Society, (6 L. M.)	•	105	
Danvers, Maple Street Church,	•	20	
Georgetown, Orthodox Memorial Ch. and Soc. (1 L. M., A. B. 8	-	31	
" Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	•	24	
Haverhill, North Congregational Church and Society, .	•	60	_
West Congregational Church and Society,	•	15	
Ipswich, Linebrook, Congregational Church and Society,	•	4	<b>50</b>

Ipswich, First Congregational Church and Society,	•	. \$ 2	5 9	90
" South Congregational Church and Society, (1	L. M.	) 2	0 0	00
Lawrence, Lawrence Street Church and Society, .	•	. 9	4 8	30
" Eliot Street Church,	•	. 1	0 7	75
" Central Congregational Church and Society,		•	1 0	8(
"Thomas P. Carleton, (1 L. M., A. B. S.)	•	. 30	0 (	0
Lynn, First Congregational Church and Society, .	•	. 3	6	0
Manchester, Church and Society of Rev. F. V. Tenney,	(1 L.	м.) 2	7 8	8
Marblehead, First Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M., A.	в. в.	) 3:	2 5	0
Methuen, A Friend,	•	•	0	
Newbury, Byfield Congregational Church and Society,	•	_	0	
Newburyport, First Presbyterian Church,	•		3 1	
" Fourth Congregational Church, .	•		7 0	
" Belleville Cong. Church and Society, (2		-	5 3	
" North Congregational Church and Societ	ty,	•	6	_
" Sarah E. Bassett, (1 L. M.)	•		0	
Peabody, Cong. Ch. and Soc. (bal. 4 L. M.) \$70.43; Do.	\$38.			
Rowley, Congregational Church and Society, .	•		1 3	
Salem, South Church,	•		5 1	
Topsfield, Congregational Church and Society, .	•	. 3	3 2 —	-
		\$ 1,31	2 5	5
EDANKIIN COUNTY DIVIE COCIE	TV			
FRANKLIN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIE	TY.			
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.	TY.			
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr. Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society,	TY.	. \$1		
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr. Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, .	TY. •	. 20	6	0
Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOT, Greenfield, Tr. Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, .	TY.	. 20	6 6	0
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr. Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, .	TY.	. 20	6 6 6 1	0
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr. Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society,	•	. 20	6 6	0
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Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Hawley, Estate of Mr. Simeon Crittenden, deceased, less \$6, Gov't Tax,	•	. 20	6 6 0 1 1 6 4 0	0 0 0 5
Mr. William Elliot, Greenfield, Tr.  Bernardston, Congregational Church and Society, Buckland, Congregational Church and Society, Coleraine, Congregational Church and Society, Conway, Congregational Church and Society, Gill, Congregational Church and Society, Hawley, Estate of Mr. Simeon Crittenden, deceased, less \$6, Gov't Tax, Montague, Congregational Church and Society,	•	. 20 . 6: . 1: . 9.	6 6 6 1 1 6 6 9 0	0 0 0 5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
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## HAMPDEN COUNTY BIBLE SOCIETY.

Mr. Roderick Burt, Springfield, Tr.

Monson, Congregational Church and Society	. \$ 48 65
Palmer, Second Congregational Church and Society, .	. 30 75
Donations,	. 230 00
	\$ 309 40
For Bibles,	<b>\$ 203 40</b>
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY.	
Hadley, North, Congregational Church and Society, .	. \$ 23 00
MIDDLESEX COUNTY.	
Acton, Congregational Church and Society,	. \$ 2 00
Brighton, Evangelical Church and Society,	. 41 35
Cambridge, Shepard Congregational Society,	. 133 90
" Harvard Street Methodist Episcopal Church,	. 20 00
East, Methodist Episcopal Church,	. 11 00
Charlestown, Winthrop Church,	. 40 00
Concord, Union Bible Society, (3 L. M.)	. 135 59
Dunstable, Congregational Church and Society,	. 2 75
Groton, Union Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	. 41 00
Groton Junction, Mrs. John F. Robbins,	. 1 00
Holliston, Congregational Church and Society,	. 27 00
Hopkinton, Congregational Church and Society,	. 22 50
Littleton, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,	. 14 75
Lowell, John Street Church and Society,	. 44 00
" Appleton Street Church and Society,	. 41 30
" Miss Emily Rogers, (A. B. S.)	. 5 00
" Mrs. D. G. Godden, (2 L. M., A. B. S.)	. 60 00
Medford, Trinitarian Congregational Church and Society,	. 94 98
Natick, South, John Eliot Church Sabbath school, .	. 5 00
Newton, Centre, Mrs. Mary Ward, (1 L. M. in part,) .	. 10 00
West, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.	47 69
" A Friend, \$30; Do. \$2,	. 32 00
" Newtonville Central Church, \$97.69; B. F. Whit	-
temore, \$3.95,	. 101 64
Pepperell, Congregational Church and Society,	. 9 00
Tewksbury, Congregational Church and Society,	. 13 00
Townsend, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society,	. 5 43
Waltham, Trinitarian Cong. Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	. 39 32
" Mr. S. D. Warren,	. 200 00
Westford, Congregational Church and Society,	. 8 17
Weston, Mrs. M. A. H. Bigelow, (2 L. M.)	. 50 00
	<b>4</b> 1 050 70
	<b>\$</b> 1,258 78

## NORFOLK COUNTY.

NORFOLK COUNTY.		
Braintree, First Church, \$10; Rev. Dr. Storrs, \$60, (3 L. M.)	<b>\$</b> 70	00
" Miss Rachel Faxon,	5	00
Brookline, Harvard Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	135	15
" Mr. William B. Towne,	20	00
Canton, Edward Baxter Dickinson,		64
Dorchester, Second Church,	379	39
" Village Church,	38	<b>72</b>
Foxboro', Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M., A. B. S.)	61	76
Franklin, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	39	32
Medway, First Church, for Bibles \$11, donation,	41	69
" Village Congregational Church and Society,	48	00
" West, Congregational Church and Society,	23	<b>26</b>
Randolph, First Congregational Church and Society,	81	30
" Winthrop Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	40	84
Stoughton, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) .	23	00
Walpole, Orthodox Congregational Church and Society, .	18	44
Weymouth, First Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	24	00
Wrentham, First Congregational Church and Society,	33	<b>75</b>
-	1,084	26
PLYMOUTH COUNTY.		
Abington, First Congregational Church and Society,	<b>\$</b> 58	00
Abington, First Congregational Church and Society, Fourth Congregational Church and Society,	•	00 40
	•	40
" Fourth Congregational Church and Society, .	4	40 00
" Fourth Congregational Church and Society, Mr. William Pratt, (5 L. M.)	4 100	40 00 00
"Fourth Congregational Church and Society, "Mr. William Pratt, (5 L. M.)  "A Friend,  Bridgewater, Central Square Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	4 100 10	40 00 00 00
"Fourth Congregational Church and Society, "Mr. William Pratt, (5 L. M.).  "A Friend, "Bridgewater, Central Square Church and Society, (2 L. M.).	4 100 10 42 41	40 00 00 00
"Fourth Congregational Church and Society, "Mr. William Pratt, (5 L. M.)  "A Friend,  Bridgewater, Central Square Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Hingham, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	4 100 10 42 41	40 00 00 00 85 50
"Fourth Congregational Church and Society, "Mr. William Pratt, (5 L. M.)  "A Friend,  Bridgewater, Central Square Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Hingham, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Middleboro', First Congregational Church and Society,	4 100 10 42 41 8 20 44	40 00 00 00 85 50
"Fourth Congregational Church and Society, "Mr. William Pratt, (5 L. M.) "A Friend, "Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.) Hingham, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Middleboro', First Congregational Church and Society, "North Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	4 100 10 42 41 8 20 44	40 00 00 00 85 50 00
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"Fourth Congregational Church and Society, "Mr. William Pratt, (5 L. M.) "A Friend,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Hingham, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Middleboro', First Congregational Church and Society,  "North Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Ch. and Soc. (1 L. M.)	4 100 10 42 41 8 20 44 .) 21 30 20	40 00 00 00 85 50 00 29 60
"Fourth Congregational Church and Society, "Mr. William Pratt, (5 L. M.)  "A Friend,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Hingham, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Middleboro', First Congregational Church and Society,  "North Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Ch. and Soc. (1 L. M.)  Plymouth, Mrs. Jane Gordon, (1 L. M.)  "South, Congregational Church and Society, .	4 100 10 42 41 8 20 44 .) 21 30 20	40 00 00 00 85 50 00 29 60 00 30
"Fourth Congregational Church and Society, "Mr. William Pratt, (5 L. M.)  "A Friend,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Hingham, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Middleboro', First Congregational Church and Society,  "North Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Ch. and Soc. (1 L. M.)  Plymouth, Mrs. Jane Gordon, (1 L. M.)  "South, Congregational Church and Society, .	4 100 10 42 41 8 20 44 2) 21 30 20 8	40 00 00 00 85 50 00 29 60 00 30
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Fourth Congregational Church and Society,  Mr. William Pratt, (5 L. M.)  A Friend,  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)  Hingham, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  Middleboro', First Congregational Church and Society,  North Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Ch. and Soc. (1 L. M.)  Plymouth, Mrs. Jane Gordon, (1 L. M.)  South, Congregational Church and Society,  Suffolk County.	4 100 10 42 41 8 20 44 ) 21 30 20 8 448	40 00 00 00 85 50 00 29 60 00 30 94
"Fourth Congregational Church and Society, "Mr. William Pratt, (5 L. M.) "A Friend, "Campello, Central Square Church and Society, (2 L. M.) "Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.) Hingham, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society, Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) Middleboro', First Congregational Church and Society, "North Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Ch. and Soc. (1 L. M.) Plymouth, Mrs. Jane Gordon, (1 L. M.) "South, Congregational Church and Society, "Suffolk County.	4 100 10 42 41 8 20 44 ) 21 30 20 8 44 ) 48	40 00 00 00 85 50 00 29 60 00 30 94
"Fourth Congregational Church and Society, "Mr. William Pratt, (5 L. M.). "A Friend,  "Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.).  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.).  Hingham, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.).  Middleboro', First Congregational Church and Society,  "North Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Ch. and Soc. (1 L. M.)  Plymouth, Mrs. Jane Gordon, (1 L. M.)  "South, Congregational Church and Society,  "South, Congregational Church and Society,  "Rev. Mr. Murray, Park Street, (7 L. M.).	4 100 10 42 41 8 20 44 ) 21 30 20 8 44 ) 30 137 154	40 00 00 00 85 50 00 29 60 00 30 94
"Fourth Congregational Church and Society, "Mr. William Pratt, (5 L. M.). "A Friend,  "Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.).  Campello, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.).  Hingham, Evangelical Congregational Church and Society,  Lakeville, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.).  Middleboro', First Congregational Church and Society,  "North Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.).  North Bridgewater, Porter Evangelical Ch. and Soc. (1 L. M.).  Plymouth, Mrs. Jane Gordon, (1 L. M.).  "South, Congregational Church and Society,  SUFFOLK COUNTY.  Boston, Society of Rev. Dr. Adams, Essex Street, "Rev. Mr. Murray, Park Street, (7 L. M.). "Rev. Dr. Alden, South Boston,	4 100 10 42 41 8 20 44 ) 21 30 20 8 44 ) 30 137 154	40 00 00 00 85 50 00 29 60 00 30 94

Boston, Highlands, Eliot Church,	<b>\$</b> 185	70
" German Methodist Episcopal Church, .	14	25
" Society of Rev. Dr. Webb, (1 L. D., A. B. S.)	252	<b>50</b>
" Shawmut Avenue Baptist Church,	26	40
" Grace Methodist Episcopal Church,	18	88
" A Friend, \$5; Do. 50c.,	5	<b>50</b>
" Annual Subscription of Members of the Society, .	311	73
Chelsea, Broadway Church and Society,	43	39
" Rev. E. P. Thwing,	2	00
	\$ 1,310	30
WORCESTER COUNTY.		
Athol, Congregational Church and Society,	<b>\$</b> 23	<b>55</b>
Berlin, Congregational Church and Society, (2 L. M.)	42	63
Fitchburg, Calvinistic Cong. Ch. and Soc., (3 L. M., A. B. S.)	111	93
Gardner, First Congregational Church and Society, (7 L. M.)	140	13
Harvard, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.)	37	<b>50</b>
Holden, Congregational Church and Society,	11	00
Leominster, Congregational Church and Society,	41	00
" Evangelical Sabbath school,	15	00
" North, Friends,	1	00
Millbury, Congregational Church and Society, (1 L. M.) .	20	00
Northboro', Congregational Church and Society,	13	00
Phillipston, Congregational Church and Society,	11	00
Shrewsbury, Cong. Ch. and Soc., \$30; John B. Gough, \$100,	130	00
Southboro', Pilgrim Church and Society,		15
Templeton, Congregational Church and Society,	16	00
Westboro', Evangelical Cong. Church and Society, (4 L. M.)	81	43
West Boylston, First Cong. Church and Society, A Member,	4	00
West Brookfield, Congregational Church and Society,	20	00
Westminster, Congregational Church and Society,	18	32
Whitinsville, Congregational Church and Society, (25 L. M.)	557	<b>50</b>
Winchendon, North Congregational Church and Society, .	24	25
Worcester, Central Church,	60	10
	\$ 1,399	49
MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS.		
Hartford, Ct., Mrs. Mary C. Bemis, (1 L. M.)	<b>\$</b> 70	00
" W. L. Bemis,	10	00
Lewiston Falls, Me., Richard C. Stanley,	20	00
New England Methodist Episcopal Conference,	552	92
Walpole, N. H., Mr. Simeon N. Perry,	40	00
Collections by Rev. A. M. Osgood, Agent,	436	57
Collections by Mr. C. B. Bean, Agent,	121	74
8	<b>*</b> 1,251	23

## **COLLECTIONS**

# By the Rev. E. F. SLAFTER, Agent of the American Bible Society.

•	•							•	
Emmanuel Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	\$ 841	00
St. Paul's Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	747	00
Trinity Church, Boston,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	729	00
Grace Church, Salem	•	•	•		•	•	•	25	00
St. Paul's Church, Newbury			•	•	•	•	•	31	<b>50</b>
Grace Church, Lawrence,	•		•	•	•	•	•	20	00
St. Michael's Church, Marble	ehe <b>a</b> d	l <b>,</b>	•	•	•	•	•	46	60
St. Peter's Church, Cambrid			•	•	•	•	•	20	73
Christ Church, Fitchburg,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	20	00
Christ Church, Springfield,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	31	62
St. Andrew's Church, Hanov		•	•	•	•	•	•	84	71
Anonymous,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	00
St. Paul's Church, Dedham,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		<b>5</b> 0
St. Luke's Church, Chelsea,	•	•	•	•	•	•		9	40
Grace Church, Newton Corn	er,	•	•	•	•	•	•	20	81
St. Mary's Church, Newton	-	r Fal	ls,	•	•	•	•	43	42
St. James' Church, Roxbury		•	•	•	•	•	•	69	63
Church of Our Saviour, Lon	-	d,	•	•	•	•	•	75	00
St. Paul's Church, Malden;	_	-	•	•	•	•		2	00
St. John's Church, Jamaica I		•	•	•	•	•		150	00
·	•								
							\$	3,052	92
•	LEG	ACI	ES.						
Becket, Mrs. Eunice Brown,	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	<b>\$</b> 15	00
Reading, Mr. Samuel Gould,								235	00
Whitinsville, Mr. E. W. Flet	•	•	•	•		-	•	200	00
·	•								
								<b>\$</b> 450	00
Dividends and Interest, .	•	•	•	•	•	•	.\$	1,171	00
Returned for Books donated,	)	•	•	•	•	•	•	6	30
Sales	•								86

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